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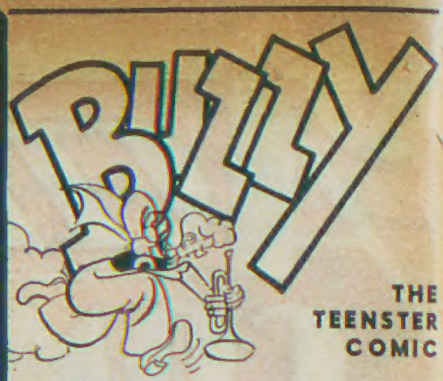

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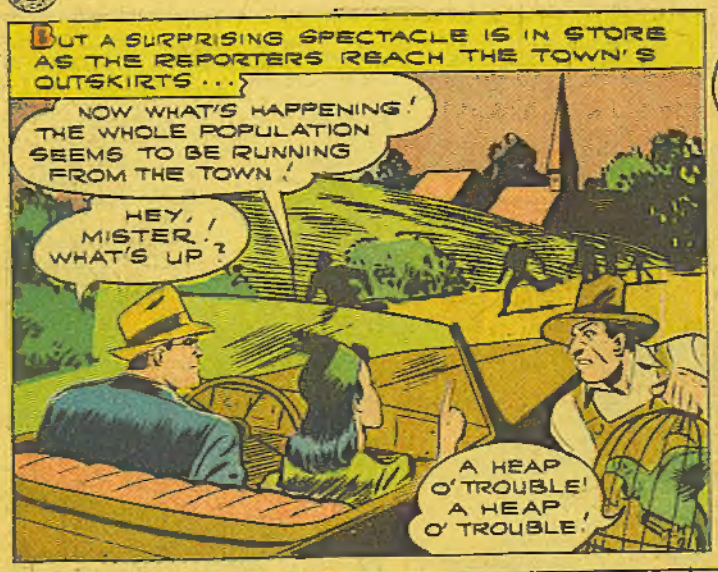
ACTION COMICS No. 92, March, 1946. Published monthly by Detective Comics, Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. F. W. Ellsworth, Editor. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. $1.50 including postage. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copyrighted by Detective Comics, Inc. Except those who have authorized use, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this [illegible] are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with [illegible] is intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

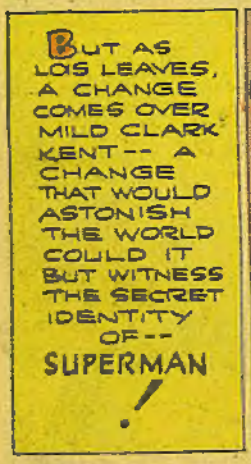
SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER
FEARFUL ARE THE TALES OF MONSTERS STRANGE BROUGHT BACK BY THOSE WHO O'ER THE OCEAN RANGE.
OF BEINGS UNKNOWN TO SAGES AND TO FOOLS WHO DWELL WITHIN THE DEEPS WHERE NEPTUNE RULES.
OF EERIE CREATURES HID IN DARKENED SHOALS WHO LURK THEREIN TO TRAP UNWARY SOULS.
WHEN ONE OF THESE EMERGES ON DRY LAND, CREATING TERROR THAT GROWS OUT OF HAND,
WHAT HARDY SOUL DARES CHECK ITS DARING PLAN
EXCEPT A MAN OF STEEL, A SUPERMAN?
BUT EVEN SUPERMAN AT FIRST IS FOOLED BY SUCH A FOE, SO WELL IN EVIL SCHOOLED,
UNTIL A HIDDEN SECRET BROUGHT TO LIGHT BY X-RAY EYES DESTROYS . . .
"THE WATER SPRITE!"

THE MOON LOOKS DOWN A SLANTING HILL, CASTING CROOKED SHADOWS ALONG THE SLOPING EAVES OF SLEEPING THORNLEY FARM. THEN, A DOOR CREAKS... LIGHT FOOTSTEPS PAD QUICKLY ALONG THE TURF AS NELLIE THORNLEY MAKES HER WAY TO THE OLD WELL...
FATHER IS FAST ASLEEP... BUT I CAN'T CLOSE MY EYES. I HAVE THE STRANGEST FEELING... I'LL FETCH SOME WATER AND MAKE SOME TEA. PERHAPS IT WILL HELP ME SLEEP...
DID I HEAR A SPLASH? BUT I COULDN'T HAVE! WHY--THERE IT GOES AGAIN... THERE'S SOMETHING DOWN IN THAT WATER!
A SUDDEN SPLASH! AN EERIE SIGH! TRANSFIXED IN HORROR, NELLIE WATCHES AS THE WATERS PART TO REVEAL THE MOST TERRIFYING VISAGE THAT HUMAN EYES HAVE EVER BEHELD!
LET THOSE WHO TRAMMEL UP THE IRRIDESCENT WATERS BEWARE!
EEK!
WHILE IN THE FARM-HOUSE...
EEE-E-E! HELP!
WH--! BY GUM--THAT'S NELLIE'S VOICE! IT'S COMIN' FROM THE WELL! NOW WHERE IN TARNATION IS THAT LANTERN?
NELLIE! NELLIE--GAL--! WHUT HAPPENED!
SEAWEED!
... H-HE SAID WE M-MUSTN'T ... IMPRISON... THE WATER... HIS GREEN EYES... THE WATER-SPRITE... O-O-OOOOH...
2

LATER-A DULL DAY IN THE PLANET NEWSROOM INDUCES A HARRASSED EDITOR TO SEND HIS TWO STAR REPORTERS TO MAKE THE MOST OF AN APPARENTLY ROUTINE STORY--
THE GIRL PROBABLY WAS HYSTERICAL, BUT MAYBE YOU CAN SQUEEZE SOME KIND OF YARN OUT OF THIS WATER-SPRITE BUSINESS.
AT THE CITY HOSPITAL, EH?
WELL, YOU CAN BE SURE THERE WON'T BE ANY HEADLINES IN IT.
WATER-SPRITES... HMPH! NEXT THING YOU KNOW, WE'LL BE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE LEPRECHAUN AND PIXIE CONVENTION.
WELL, IT'S OUR JOB TO COVER THE NEWS, EVEN WHEN THERE ISN'T ANY, I GUESS.
AT THE CITY HOSPITAL...
I SEE. BUT YOU SAY NO ONE ACTUALLY SAW THE BIT OF SEA-WEED THAT YOUR FATHER DISCOVERED WHEN HE FOUND YOU...
...AND WHEN IT STARTED TO COME OUT OF THE WELL, I-I FAINTED.
THAT'S THAT, I GUESS...
THUS--BACK TO THE PLANET DESK...
WELL, WE SAW THE GIRL. WE MIGHT JUST AS WELL HAVE STAYED HERE. THE STORY OF THE WATER-SPRITE CAME FROM A DISORDERED IMAGINATION.
A DISORDERED IMAGINATION, EH? WELL, JUST CAST YOUR EYES ON THIS TELETYPE FLASH.
"MYSTERIOUS GREEN MONSTER RESEMBLING LEGENDARY WATER-SPRITE ALLEGED TO HAVE TIPPED OVER CANOE ON NEWLY CONSTRUCTED ARTIFICIAL LAKE. FOUR NARROWLY ESCAPE DROWNING... BITS OF SEAWEED FOUND ON THE CANOE..."
BUT-- THIS IS ABSURD! THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A WATER-SPRITE!
SO THERE ISN'T A THING LIKE A WATER-SPRITE! WHAT DO I CARE? I WANT A STORY! I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S BEHIND THIS! IS THAT TOO MUCH TO ASK OF MY SO-CALLED STAR REPORTERS?
THAT LAKE IS ONLY TEN MILES FROM THE THORNLEY FARM. THE NEAREST TOWN WOULD BE ANNISDALE...
IF WE MAKE A FEW INQUIRIES AROUND ANNISDALE, WE MAY LEARN SOMETHING. WE'LL BE THERE IN ANOTHER TEN MINUTES.
SEAWEED ...HMM... AND ANNISDALE IS OVER FIFTY MILES INLAND...
3

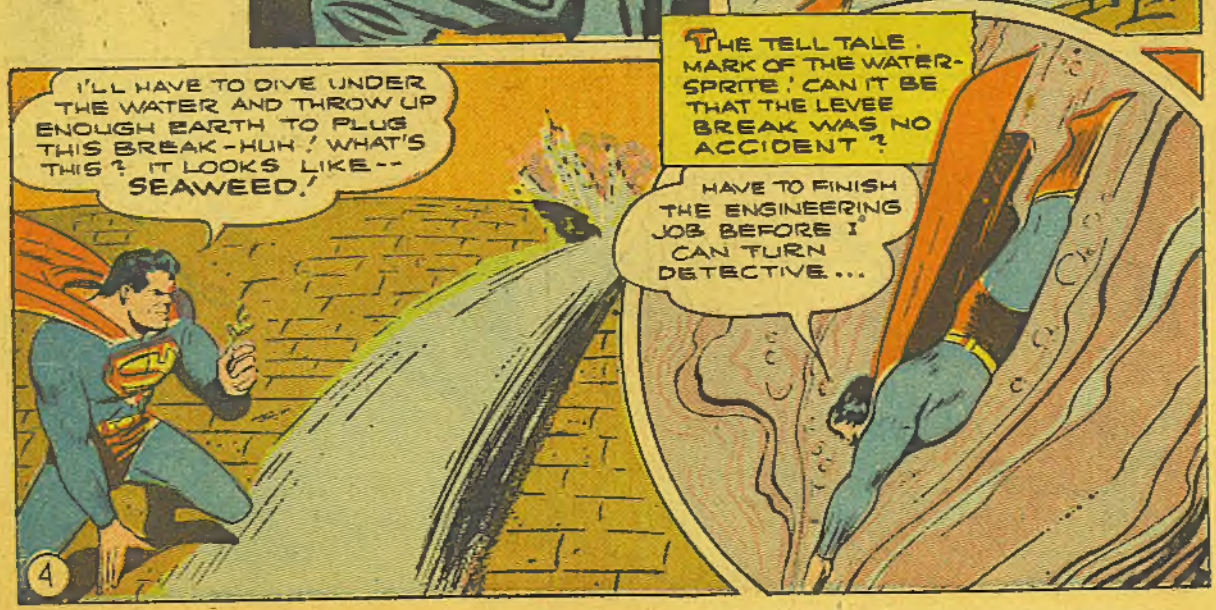

BUT A SURPRISING SPECTACLE IS IN STORE AS THE REPORTERS REACH THE TOWN'S OUTSKIRTS . . .
NOW WHAT'S HAPPENING! THE WHOLE POPULATION SEEMS TO BE RUNNING FROM THE TOWN!
HEY, MISTER! WHAT'S UP?
A HEAP O' TROUBLE! A HEAP O' TROUBLE!

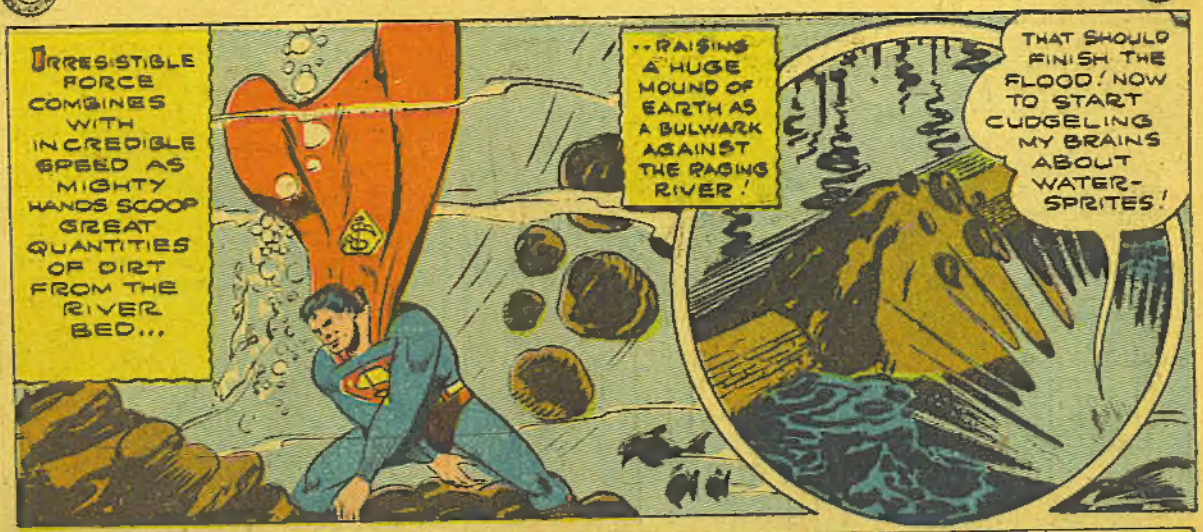
YE'D BETTER MAKE TRACKS, YOU TWO! THERE'S BEEN A BREAK AT THE LEVEE T'OTHER SIDE O' TOWN. THE RIVER'LL BE RISIN' UP ALONG THIS ROAD IN ANOTHER HALF HOUR!
A FLOOD! NOW WE'VE REALLY GOT A STORY! MUST FIND A TELEPHONE!
LOIS -- COME BACK!


BUT AS LOIS LEAVES, A CHANGE COMES OVER MILD CLARK KENT -- A CHANGE THAT WOULD ASTONISH THE WORLD COULD IT BUT WITNESS THE SECRET IDENTITY OF -- SUPERMAN!

SHE WOULD RUN RIGHT INTO THE FLOOD TO PHONE HER STORY IN. WELL, IT'S UP TO SUPERMAN TO MAKE SURE THAT THE FLOOD IS CHECKED.

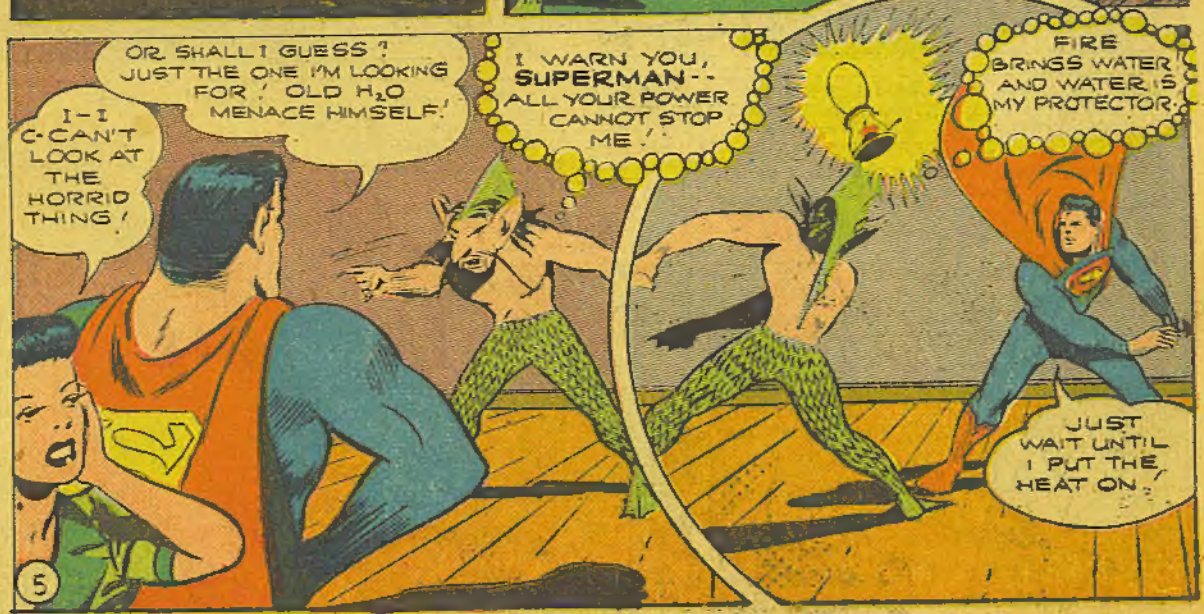
SKYWARD STREAKS THE MAN OF STEEL, AN INDISTINCT BLUR TO THE FLEEING TOWNSFOLK ON THE ROAD BELOW..

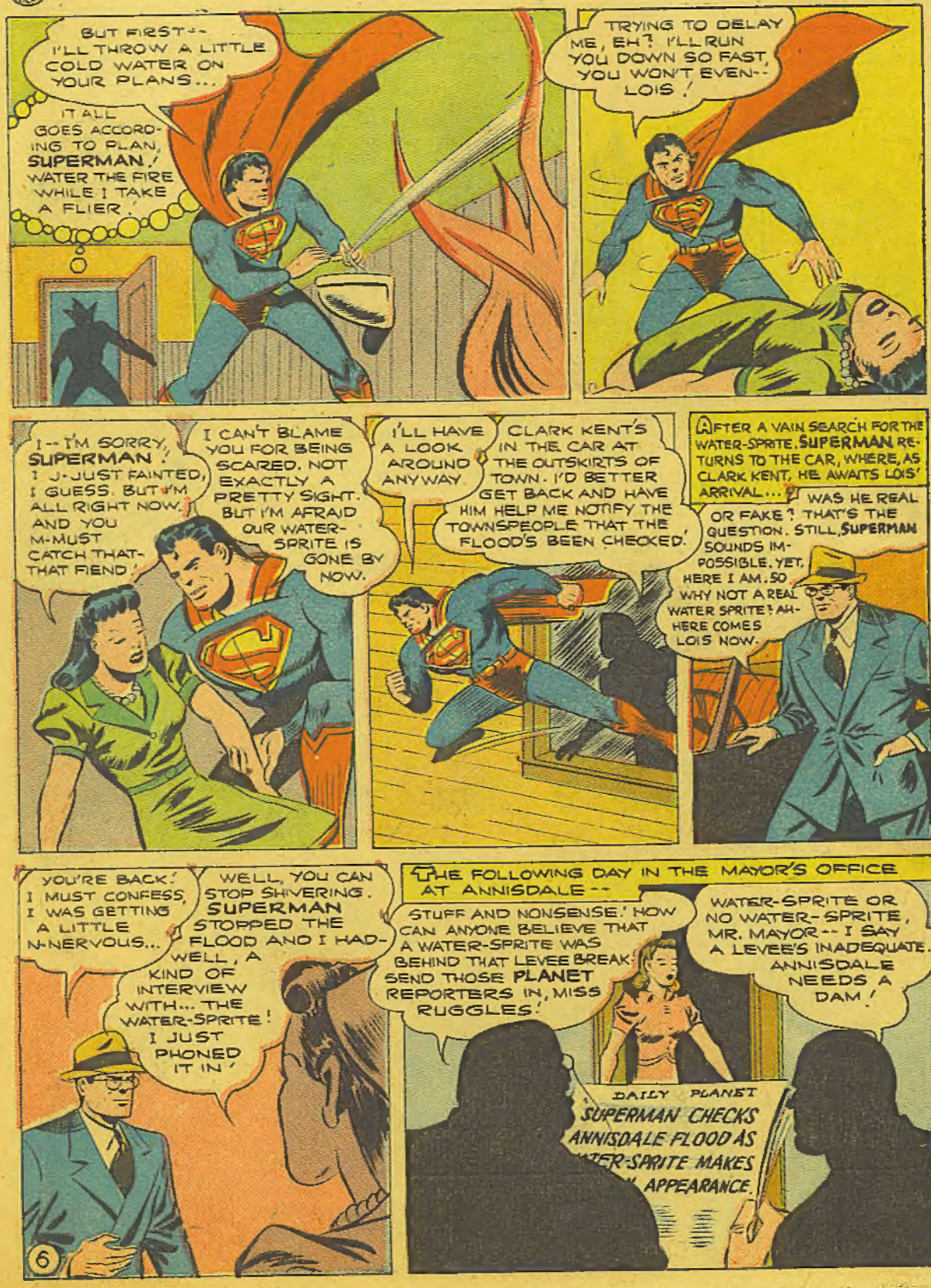

I'LL HAVE TO DIVE UNDER THE WATER AND THROW UP ENOUGH EARTH TO PLUG THIS BREAK - HUH! WHAT'S THIS? IT LOOKS LIKE -- SEAWEED!
THE TELL TALE MARK OF THE WATER-SPRITE! CAN IT BE THAT THE LEVEE BREAK WAS NO ACCIDENT?
HAVE TO FINISH THE ENGINEERING JOB BEFORE I CAN TURN DETECTIVE . . .

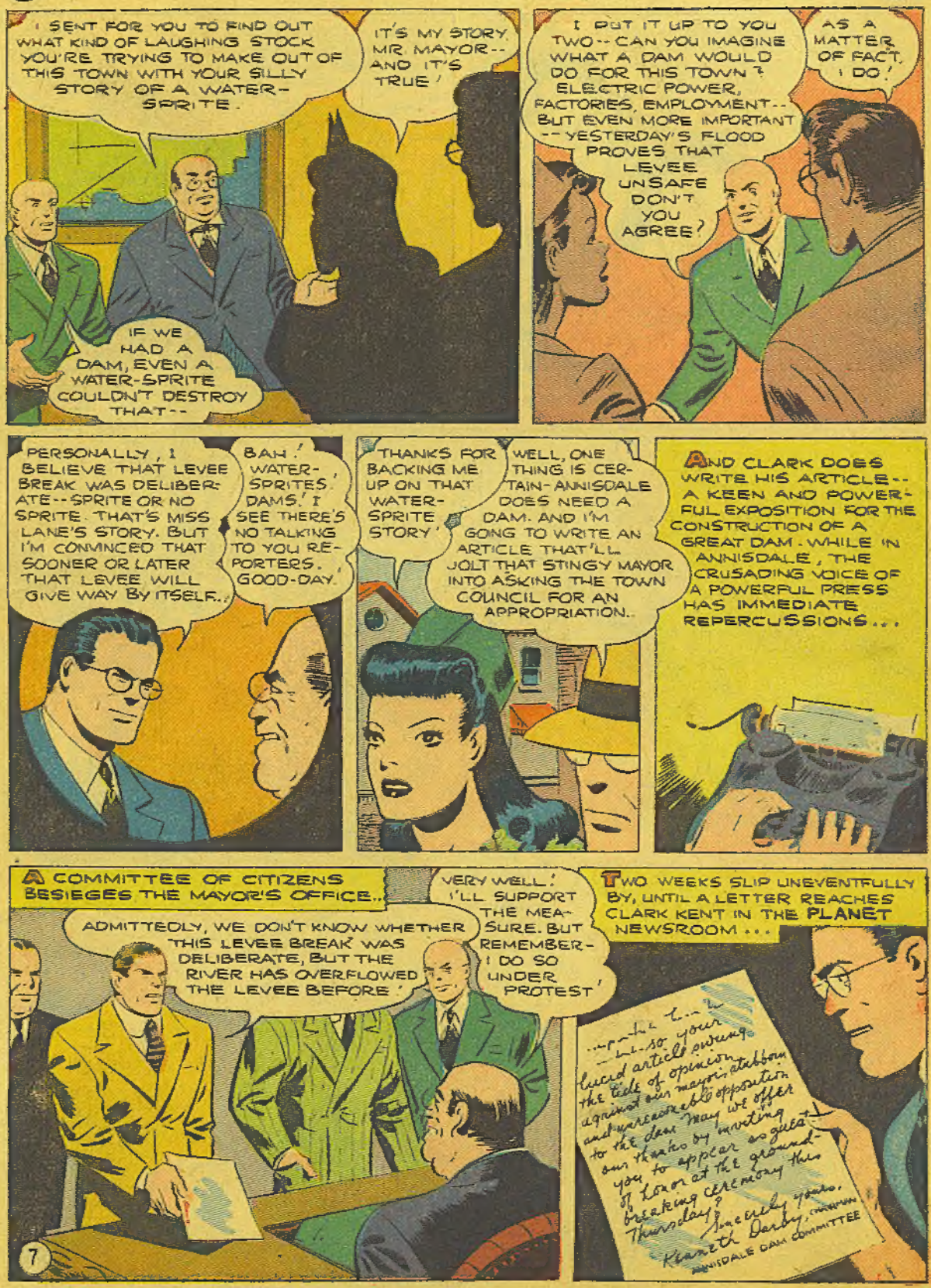

IRRESISTIBLE FORCE COMBINES WITH INCREDIBLE SPEED AS MIGHTY HANDS SCOOP GREAT QUANTITIES OF DIRT FROM THE RIVER BED...
--RAISING A HUGE MOUND OF EARTH AS A BULWARK AGAINST THE RAGING RIVER!
THAT SHOULD FINISH THE FLOOD! NOW TO START CUDGELING MY BRAINS ABOUT WATER-SPRITES!

BUT SCARCELY IS ONE TASK COMPLETED WHEN SUPERSENSITIVE EARS DETECT ANOTHER URGENT CALL...
HELP!
BUT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE--WHA! THAT'S LOIS! AND SHE'S IN TROUBLE!

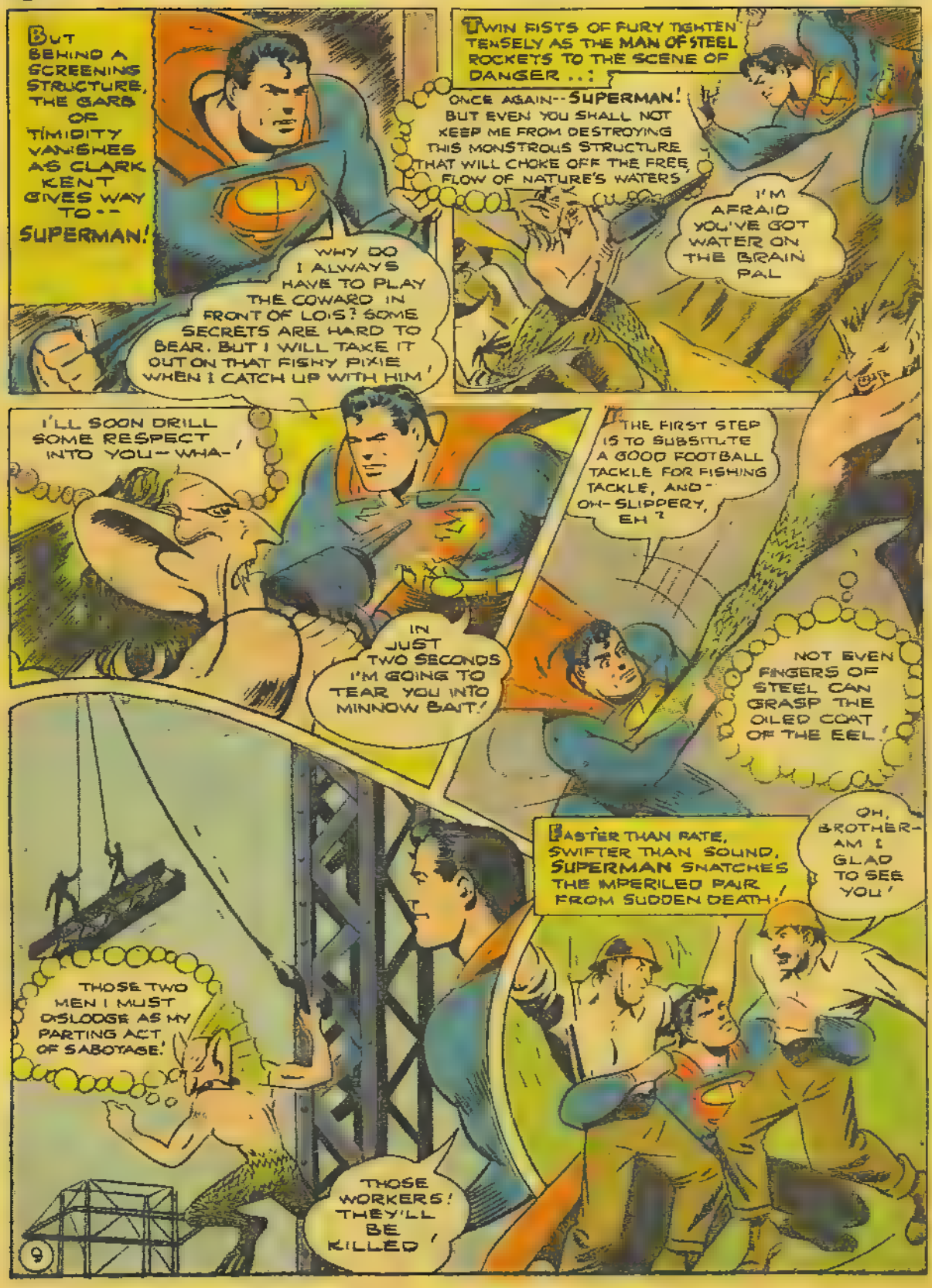
MAGNETIZED BY LOIS LANE'S DESPERATE CRY, THE MAN OF TOMORROW HURTLES INTO A STARKLY INCREDIBLE SCENE --
RASH IS THE BEING WHO DARES CLOSE THE TAP AND IMPRISON THE FREE FLOW OF THE SACRED WATER. GUSH FORTH, O GURGLING FOUNT!
OOO-O-O-H! SUPERMAN!
MISS LANE! AND WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?


I-I C-CAN'T LOOK AT THE HORRID THING!
OR SHALL I GUESS? JUST THE ONE I'M LOOKING FOR! OLD H_2O MENACE HIMSELF!
I WARN YOU, SUPERMAN--ALL YOUR POWER CANNOT STOP ME!
FIRE BRINGS WATER AND WATER IS MY PROTECTOR.
JUST WAIT UNTIL I PUT THE HEAT ON!
5


BUT FIRST -- I'LL THROW A LITTLE COLD WATER ON YOUR PLANS...
IT ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, SUPERMAN! WATER THE FIRE WHILE I TAKE A FLIER!
TRYING TO DELAY ME, EH? I'LL RUN YOU DOWN SO FAST, YOU WON'T EVEN-- LOIS!
I-- I'M SORRY, SUPERMAN! I J-JUST FAINTED, I GUESS. BUT I'M ALL RIGHT NOW. AND YOU M-MUST CATCH THAT-THAT FIEND!
I CAN'T BLAME YOU FOR BEING SCARED. NOT EXACTLY A PRETTY SIGHT. BUT I'M AFRAID OUR WATER-SPRITE IS GONE BY NOW.
I'LL HAVE A LOOK AROUND ANYWAY.
CLARK KENT'S IN THE CAR AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN. I'D BETTER GET BACK AND HAVE HIM HELP ME NOTIFY THE TOWNSPEOPLE THAT THE FLOOD'S BEEN CHECKED.
AFTER A VAIN SEARCH FOR THE WATER-SPRITE, SUPERMAN RETURNS TO THE CAR, WHERE, AS CLARK KENT, HE AWAITS LOIS' ARRIVAL...
WAS HE REAL OR FAKE? THAT'S THE QUESTION. STILL, SUPERMAN SOUNDS IMPOSSIBLE. YET, HERE I AM. SO WHY NOT A REAL WATER SPRITE? AH-HERE COMES LOIS NOW.
YOU'RE BACK! I MUST CONFESS, I WAS GETTING A LITTLE N-NERVOUS...
WELL, YOU CAN STOP SHIVERING. SUPERMAN STOPPED THE FLOOD AND I HAD-WELL, A KIND OF INTERVIEW WITH... THE WATER-SPRITE! I JUST PHONED IT IN!
THE FOLLOWING DAY IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AT ANNISDALE --
STUFF AND NONSENSE! HOW CAN ANYONE BELIEVE THAT A WATER-SPRITE WAS BEHIND THAT LEVEE BREAK! SEND THOSE PLANET REPORTERS IN, MISS RUGGLES!
WATER-SPRITE OR NO WATER-SPRITE, MR. MAYOR -- I SAY A LEVEE'S INADEQUATE. ANNISDALE NEEDS A DAM!
DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN CHECKS ANNISDALE FLOOD AS WATER-SPRITE MAKES APPEARANCE.
6


I SENT FOR YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF LAUGHING STOCK YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE OUT OF THIS TOWN WITH YOUR SILLY STORY OF A WATER-SPRITE.
IT'S MY STORY, MR MAYOR--AND IT'S TRUE!
IF WE HAD A DAM, EVEN A WATER-SPRITE COULDN'T DESTROY THAT--
I PUT IT UP TO YOU TWO--CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT A DAM WOULD DO FOR THIS TOWN? ELECTRIC POWER, FACTORIES, EMPLOYMENT--BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT--YESTERDAY'S FLOOD PROVES THAT LEVEE UNSAFE DON'T YOU AGREE?
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I DO!
PERSONALLY, I BELIEVE THAT LEVEE BREAK WAS DELIBERATE--SPRITE OR NO SPRITE. THAT'S MISS LANE'S STORY. BUT I'M CONVINCED THAT SOONER OR LATER THAT LEVEE WILL GIVE WAY BY ITSELF..
BAH! WATER-SPRITES, DAMS! I SEE THERE'S NO TALKING TO YOU REPORTERS. GOOD-DAY!
THANKS FOR BACKING ME UP ON THAT WATER-SPRITE STORY!
WELL, ONE THING IS CERTAIN-ANNISDALE DOES NEED A DAM. AND I'M GOING TO WRITE AN ARTICLE THAT'LL JOLT THAT STINGY MAYOR INTO ASKING THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR AN APPROPRIATION..
AND CLARK DOES WRITE HIS ARTICLE--A KEEN AND POWERFUL EXPOSITION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GREAT DAM. WHILE IN ANNISDALE, THE CRUSADING VOICE OF A POWERFUL PRESS HAS IMMEDIATE REPERCUSSIONS...
A COMMITTEE OF CITIZENS BESIEGES THE MAYOR'S OFFICE..
ADMITTEDLY, WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER THIS LEVEE BREAK WAS DELIBERATE, BUT THE RIVER HAS OVERFLOWED THE LEVEE BEFORE!
VERY WELL! I'LL SUPPORT THE MEASURE. BUT REMEMBER-I DO SO UNDER PROTEST!
TWO WEEKS SLIP UNEVENTFULLY BY, UNTIL A LETTER REACHES CLARK KENT IN THE PLANET NEWSROOM...
...so your lucid article swung the tide of opinion against our mayor's stubborn and unreasonable opposition to the dam. May we offer our thanks by inviting you to appear as guest of honor at the ground-breaking ceremony this Thursday?
Sincerely yours,
Kenneth Darby, chairman
ANNISDALE DAM COMMITTEE

YOU HAVEN'T STOPPED TALKING ABOUT THAT WATER-SPRITE FOR TWO WEEKS. AND AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'M RATHER CURIOUS ABOUT IT MYSELF. SUPPOSE YOU ASK WHITE TO LET YOU GO TO ANNISDALE WITH ME AGAIN.
I'D LOVE TO-- BUT WHAT'S THE CATCH?
WELL-- CALL IT GENEROSITY, IF YOU LIKE. WE STARTED THIS THING TOGETHER. WE MAY AS WELL SEE IT THROUGH TOGETHER.
THANKS, CLARK (-- HE JUST LIKES HAVING ME AROUND!--)
THURSDAY FINDS THE PLANET NEWSHAWKS ONCE MORE IN ANNISDALE...
DIDN'T TAKE US LONG TO GET UNDERWAY, DID IT? EVERYTHING'S READY-- THE CEMENT'S CONTRACTED FOR, MATERIALS PURCHASED. YESSIREE, I KNOW HOW TO GET THINGS DONE. SEE YOU LATER AT THE CEREMONY.
THEY'RE DRILLING HOLES TO PLANT THE DYNAMITE.
THAT-- NOISE, CLARK-- IT SOUNDS LIKE DRILLING. LET'S GO SEE!
DON'T THEY LOOK LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF ANOTHER WORLD!
CLARK! DID YOU HEAR THAT?
THAT WATER-SPRITE AGAIN! C'MON-- LET'S GET OUT OF HERE. THIS TIME THERE'S NO SUPERMAN AROUND TO PROTECT US.
HELP! HELP! THE WATER-SPRITE!
I'LL DO NO SUCH THING. I CAME TO GET A STORY, AND--CLARK.
YOU CAN BE A FOOL, LOIS -- BUT AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, HEROES ARE BORN, NOT MADE-- AND I WASN'T BORN THAT WAY.
8


BUT BEHIND A SCREENING STRUCTURE, THE GARB OF TIMIDITY VANISHES AS CLARK KENT GIVES WAY TO -- SUPERMAN!
WHY DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO PLAY THE COWARD IN FRONT OF LOIS? SOME SECRETS ARE HARD TO BEAR. BUT I WILL TAKE IT OUT ON THAT FISHY PIXIE WHEN I CATCH UP WITH HIM!
TWIN FISTS OF FURY TIGHTEN TENSELY AS THE MAN OF STEEL ROCKETS TO THE SCENE OF DANGER . . !
ONCE AGAIN -- SUPERMAN! BUT EVEN YOU SHALL NOT KEEP ME FROM DESTROYING THIS MONSTROUS STRUCTURE THAT WILL CHOKE OFF THE FREE FLOW OF NATURE'S WATERS!
I'M AFRAID YOU'VE GOT WATER ON THE BRAIN PAL
I'LL SOON DRILL SOME RESPECT INTO YOU -- WHA-!
IN JUST TWO SECONDS I'M GOING TO TEAR YOU INTO MINNOW BAIT!
THE FIRST STEP IS TO SUBSTITUTE A GOOD FOOTBALL TACKLE FOR FISHING TACKLE, AND - OH-SLIPPERY, EH?
NOT EVEN FINGERS OF STEEL CAN GRASP THE OILED COAT OF THE EEL!
FASTER THAN FATE, SWIFTER THAN SOUND, SUPERMAN SNATCHES THE IMPERILED PAIR FROM SUDDEN DEATH!
OH, BROTHER- AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU!
THOSE TWO MEN I MUST DISLODGE AS MY PARTING ACT OF SABOTAGE!
THOSE WORKERS! THEY'LL BE KILLED!
9

DEPOSITING HIS HUMAN BURDEN SAFELY ON TERRA FIRMA, SUPERMAN FINDS THE MYSTERIOUS MENACE GONE AND A NEW THREAT TO THE DAM IMPENDING...
AND MOMENTS LATER THE FRIGHTENED WORKMEN TURN TO WITNESS AN AMAZING SCENE...
HEY, YOU LILLY-LIVERED GUYS! COME BACK HERE! IT'S NOT QUITTING TIME YET.
NOT US! WE AIN'T AIMIN' TO GET MIXED UP WITH THAT GREEN MONSTER. WE'RE QUITTIN!
CAN'T BLAME 'EM, BUT PERHAPS I CAN SET AN EXAMPLE.
OUT OF THE STARK STEEL THERE EMERGES THE MASSIVE CONCRETE SHAPE OF A GIANT DAM.
THIS SHOULD GIVE THEM ENOUGH INSPIRATION TO FINISH THE DAM IN SPITE OF THEIR FEAR. AFTER ALL, I DON'T WANT TO DEPRIVE THOSE MEN OF THEIR JOBS. AH-- HERE COMES DARBY!
SUPERMAN! SUPERMAN!
YOU WERE WONDERFUL! INCREDIBLE! OOPS!
DOWN PLUNGES SUPERMAN TOWARD THE SWIRLING WATERS BELOW...
HE'S FALLING! A FIVE HUNDRED FOOT DROP! HERE I GO AGAIN!
HE'S GONE UNDER. IF HIS BACK DIDN'T BREAK WHEN HE HIT THE WATER I CAN STILL SAVE HIM!
AND THEN TWO HEADS BOB UP FROM THE GREEN DEPTHS AT THE SAME TIME!
DARBY! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
FINE! JUST FINE! OR DIDN'T YOU KNOW I WAS AN OLYMPIC DIVING CHAMPION TEN YEARS AGO. GUESS I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN MY STUFF, EITHER.

THEN, AS SUPERMAN'S X-RAY EYES PROBE BELOW THE WATERS, HE MAKES AN ASTONISHING DISCOVERY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MR. MAYOR? DISAPPOINTED THAT I DIDN'T DROWN?
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FITTING IF YOU HAD, YOU AND YOUR USELESS DAM. JUST AN UNNECESSARY EXPENDITURE OF THE PEOPLE'S MONEY!
WHY- THE WHOLE UNDERWATER SECTION OF CONCRETE SEEMS TO BE CRUMBLING AWAY! SOMEONE'S BEEN PALMING OFF SUB-STANDARD MATERIALS ON THE TOWN! THIS DAM WON'T LAST SIX MONTHS!
OH SUPERMAN -- YOU WERE MARVELOUS. BUT DID YOU HEAR THE MAYOR? DON'T YOU THINK HE MIGHT BE BEHIND THE WATER-SPRITE? HE ALWAYS OPPOSED THE DAM!
CAN'T BE SURE YET, BUT--
-- THE RIGHT KIND OF BAIT SHOULD LAND OUR FISH. FIRST THOUGH-- I'VE GOT TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE TOWN RECORDS. MISS LANE, SUPPOSE I MEET YOU AT THE HOTEL WHERE YOU AND KENT ARE STAYING! MAY HAVE NEWS.
IT'S A DATE!
THE NEXT DAY, AN IMPATIENT LOIS AWAITS SUPERMAN IN HER HOTEL ROOM WHILE SHE PUZZLES OVER A STARTLING HEADLINE...
BUT WHAT CAN CLARK POSSIBLY KNOW? HE WAS SO FRIGHTENED YESTERDAY, HE HASN'T BEEN AROUND SINCE. OH-- THAT MUST BE SUPERMAN NOW!
KNOCK KNOCK
CLARK KENT TO REVEAL IDEN OF WATER SPRI THIS AFTERNO
CLARK KENT! YOU! BUT I WAS EXPECTING --
LOIS -- WATCH OUT! THE -- WATER-SPRITE!
SO -- YOU PLAN TO EXPOSE ME, KENT! YOU'LL SOON LEARN NOT TO INTERFERE WITH A MESSENGER OF NEPTUNE!
HONEST- I DIDN'T SEND IN THAT ARTICLE TO THE PLANET. IT WAS --

SUPERMAN!
ER-PARDON ME, BUT I'M LOOKING FOR CLARK KENT!
AND I'M LOOKING FOR YOU! I KNEW YOU'D COME HERE AFTER KENT WHEN I SENT THAT ARTICLE TO THE PLANET UNDER HIS NAME!
YOU STILL WON'T GET YOUR HANDS ON ME, SUPERMAN!
FISH ARE USUALLY CAUGHT IN NETS, AND THIS CAPE SHOULD PROVE AS SERVICEABLE AS A NET!
AS I THOUGHT! DARBY! THE TOWN RECORDS SHOWED THAT YOU WERE THE CONTRACTOR WHO SUPPLIED THOSE CHEAP MATERIALS FOR THE DAM. THE MAYOR CONFIRMED IT!
SIMPLE! A MYSTERIOUS WATER-SPRITE IS BUILT UP IN THE PEOPLE'S MINDS. HE DESTROYS THE DAM AND NO ONE EVER LEARNS ABOUT THE ROTTEN MATERIALS DARBY DOUBLED HIS PROFITS WITH. DARBY'S SKILL IN THE WATER YESTERDAY MADE ME SUSPICIOUS!
BUT--WHY SHOULD HE WANT TO DESTROY THE DAM?
THEN--THE OTHER CRIMES WERE JUST BUILD-UP SO THAT THE SPRITE AND NOT DARBY'S BAD MATERIALS WOULD BE BLAMED FOR THE DAM'S COLLAPSE LATER ON?
YES, AND ALSO TO BREAK THE LEVEE AND PROVIDE A REASON FOR BUILDING THE DAM.
THAT EVENING, AS CLARK AND LOIS DRIVE BACK TO METROPOLIS AND HOME...
AND TO THINK THAT SUPERMAN SENT IN THAT STORY UNDER MY NAME. WHY--HE USED ME AS BAIT TO TRAP THE WATER SPRITE! I COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED!
BUT YOU WEREN'T BESIDES, YOU WERE APPROPRIATE BAIT YOU CERTAINLY ACTED LIKE A WORM!
The End
12

PST -- CHANCES ARE YOU'LL FEEL GOOD TOO -- WHEN YOU START YOUR DAY WITH A CHEERY BOWLFUL OF MILK FRUIT, AND WHEATIES, "BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS"

GOOD WHOLE GRAIN NOURISHMENT IN THOSE CRISP, SPARKLING FLAKES ... THE SAME HIGH-CALIBER FOOD VALUES THAT MAKE WHEATIES A FAVORITE WITH MANY CHAMPION ATHLETES. AND **DELICIOUSLY GOOD** FLAVOR... MALT-RICH "SWEET-AS-A-NUT" FLAVOR THAT MAKES SECOND HELPINGS ALMOST AUTOMATIC

TRY THIS FAMOUS THREE-STAR BREAKFAST DISH. HAVE LOTS OF MILK, FRUIT, AND WHEATIES, "BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS" -- TOMORROW AND EVERY MORNING.

"BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS"

WITH MILK AND FRUIT

A Product of General Mills, Inc.

HAYFOOT HENRY
TO SLEEPYSIDE, THE TOWN OF RHYME, COMES BURLY BEN, INTENT ON CRIME - TO GRAB, TO STEAL, TO ROB, TO WRECK, AND GIVE POOR HENRY A PAIN IN THE NECK, AS HE MAKES THE TOWN FINANCIALLY FLATTER, TILL OUR COP WINS THE BATTLE OF ...
"MIND OVER MATTER!"
WHAT'S THIS? SOMETHING AMISS?
GET OFF THE STREETS! HURRY! VAMOOSE! BURLY BEN IS ON THE LOOSE!
BURLY BEN! I'D BETTER GO, BEFORE HE ROBS ME OF MY DOUGH!
OH DEAR ME-THAT TERRIBLE BRUTE. TO SAVE MY PURSE I'D BETTER SCOOT.

YAHOO—MY NAME IS BURLY BEN! SUPPLIES RAN LOW IN MY MOUNTAIN CAVE, SO I'M BACK IN TOWN TO ROB AGAIN— AND I FEAR NO COP, HOWEVER BRAVE!
BUT HAYFOOT HENRY, THE SLEEPYSIDE TERROR, HASTENS TO PROVE THAT CRIME IS AN ERROR!
OF BURLY BEN I'LL MAKE SHORT SHRIFT! I'LL TELL HIM STRAIGHT: BEHAVE OR DRIFT!
BETTER BEHAVE YOU PESKY PEST OR I'LL SEND YOU AWAY FOR A NICE LONG REST!
DEAR ME, COPPER I WISH YOU'D GROW! IT'S HARD TO SOCK YOU STANDING SO LOW!
ENOUGH OF YOUR INSULTS YOU BIG BABOON.
HA,HA! AN AMUSING AFTERNOON!
GRR
SWISH
BUT TOO BAD, COPPER, YOU'RE GONNA BE BRUISED, CAUSE I GOT NO TIME TO BE AMUSED...
LET ME DOWN, YOU OVER-STUFFED CLOWN!
SWISH!
I'LL DO AS YOU SAY IN MY OWN SWEET WAY!
OUCH MY NOGGIN. STOP THAT JOGGIN'.

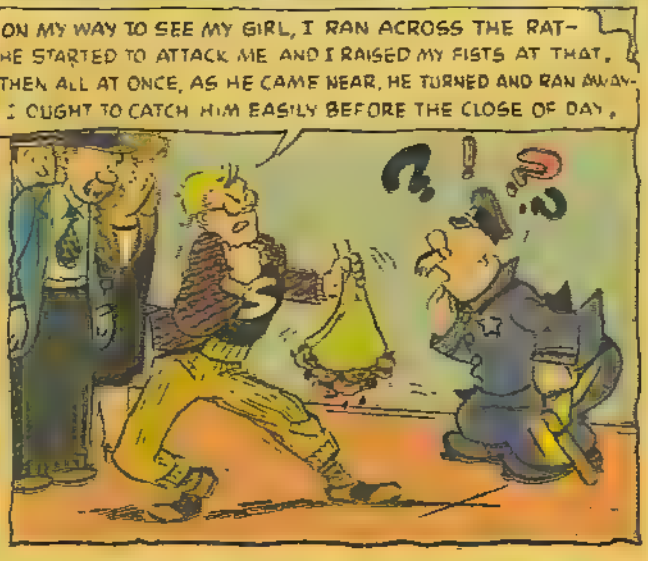
DON'T TRY THAT AGAIN WITH BURLY BEN!
WHERE AM I? MY HEAD-AH, WOE WHAT RHYMES WITH VAGRANTS! I DON'T KNOW?

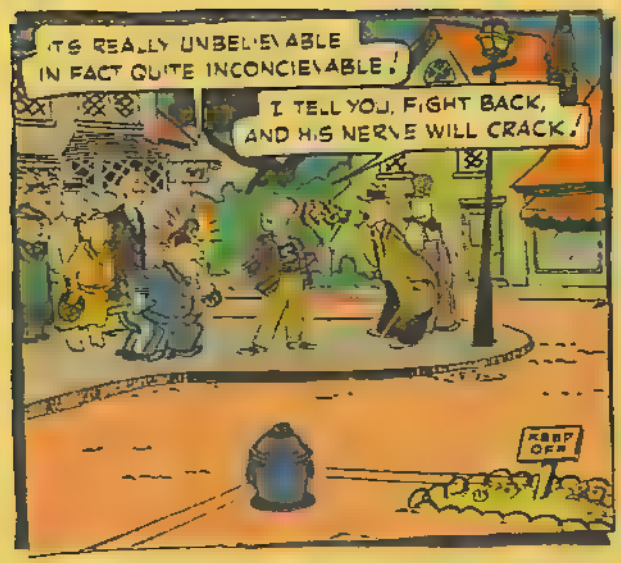
BUT THIS IS NO TIME TO HUNT FOR A RHYME!
HENRY - HENRY - COME TO YOUR SENSES! YOU'VE GOT TO STOP BURLY BEN'S OFFENSES!
HUH - BURLY BEN? DON'T WORRY! TAKE HEART! JUST LEAD ME TO HIM! I'LL TEAR HIM APART.

BUT WAIT - I REMEMBER! HE KNOCKED ME DIZZY! CAN'T MATCH HIS MUSCLE - SO BRAIN, GET BUSY!

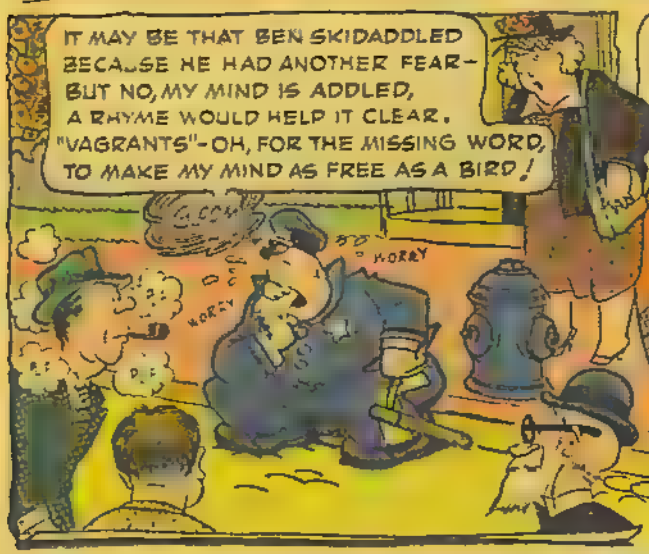
WHY NOT CATCH THE BIG SAP IN AN ELEPHANT TRAP?
WHY NOT SHOOT THE BIG GALOOT?
AS FOR THAT, HE STOLE MY GAT.

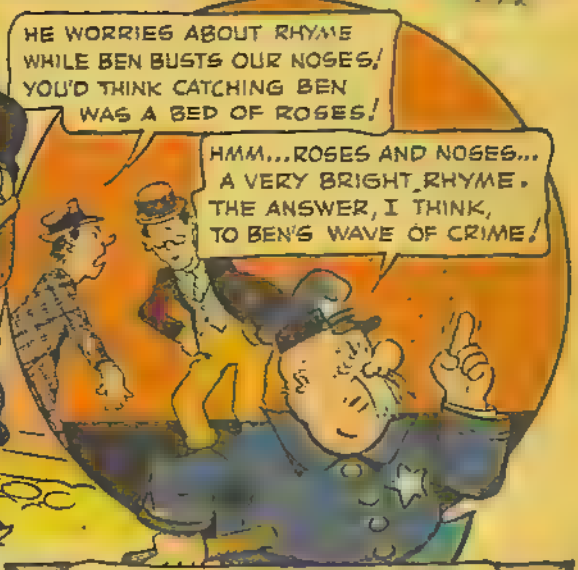
HENRY - HENRY! THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO FEAR, BURLY BEN'S A COWARD! I'LL KNOCK HIM ON HIS EAR!
3


ON MY WAY TO SEE MY GIRL, I RAN ACROSS THE RAT - HE STARTED TO ATTACK ME AND I RAISED MY FISTS AT THAT, THEN ALL AT ONCE, AS HE CAME NEAR, HE TURNED AND RAN AWAY - I OUGHT TO CATCH HIM EASILY BEFORE THE CLOSE OF DAY.


IT'S REALLY UNBELIEVABLE IN FACT QUITE INCONCIEVABLE!
I TELL YOU, FIGHT BACK, AND HIS NERVE WILL CRACK!
KEEP OFF

I CAN'T BELIEVE HIS STORY, BUT PERHAPS IT'S NOT A FICTION. PERHAPS BEN HAS A WEAK SPOT- THE LAD SPEAKS WITH CONVICTION.
BUT YOU STOOD UP TO BEN AND FOUGHT, YET ALL YOUR EFFORTS CAME TO NOUGHT!


IT MAY BE THAT BEN SKIDADDLED BECAUSE HE HAD ANOTHER FEAR- BUT NO, MY MIND IS ADDLED, A RHYME WOULD HELP IT CLEAR. "VAGRANTS"-OH, FOR THE MISSING WORD, TO MAKE MY MIND AS FREE AS A BIRD!
WORRY
WORRY

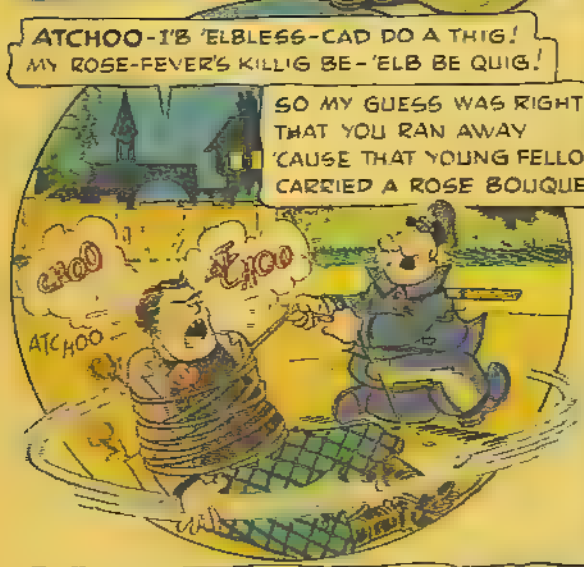

HE WORRIES ABOUT RHYME WHILE BEN BUSTS OUR NOSES! YOU'D THINK CATCHING BEN WAS A BED OF ROSES!
HMM...ROSES AND NOSES... A VERY BRIGHT RHYME. THE ANSWER, I THINK, TO BEN'S WAVE OF CRIME!

FOLKS, MY THOUGHTS HAVE BEGUN TO JELL, IN NO TIME AT ALL, I'LL CLAP BEN IN A CELL!

FROM THE LOOKS OF THIS STREET, I'M ON THE RIGHT TRACK, AND WHEN I CATCH HIM, HIS FUTURE'LL BE BLACK!

STOP, THIEF— OR YOU'LL COME TO GRIEF!
NOW LISTEN HALF-PINT— WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME. DO YOU WANT ANOTHER SIDEWALK ON YOUR DOME!
RIGHT ARE AT

YOU'VE MADE YOUR LAST THREAT— I'LL MAKE YOU SWEAT!
YOW-ATCHOO-ROSES! TEARS AND RUNNING NOSES!
WIPE!


ATCHOO-I'B 'ELBLESS-CAD DO A THIG! MY ROSE-FEVER'S KILLIG BE-'ELB BE QUIG!
SO MY GUESS WAS RIGHT THAT YOU RAN AWAY 'CAUSE THAT YOUNG FELLOW CARRIED A ROSE BOUQUET!
CHOO
ATCHOO
ATCHOO

I KNEW HE DIDN'T SCARE YOU SO IT HAD TO BE THE ROSES AND ROSE-FEVER, LIKE HAY-FEVER IS TOUGH ON SENSITIVE NOSES.
ATCHOO

LOOKA ME SO BIG AND MUSCULAR BEATEN BY A FRAGRANCE.
EUREKA! THAT'S IT. IT RHYMES WITH "VAGRANTS.
5

MUST WRITE IT IN MY LEXICON OF RHYME - VAGRANTS FRAGRANCE-AIN'T NATURE GRAND. PROVING THAT THINGS LIKE ROSES AND CRIME WERE NEVER INTENDED TO GO HAND IN HAND.
The End

VOLTO
FROM MARS
HEY, LOOK! A RUNAWAY TRUCK LOADED WITH DYNAMITE!
IT'S GOING RIGHT FOR THAT CHILD!
DANGER EXPLOSIVES
DON'T FORGET THAT WHEN I SAY VOLTO, MY MAGNETIC RIGHT ARM ATTRACTS...
VOLTO
WONDERFUL! NOT A SCRATCH!
BUT THE TRUCK, VOLTO... IT'LL EXPLODE AND HURT SOMEBODY...
MY CHILD!
OH NO IT WON'T! REMEMBER, MY LEFT ARM REPELS
BOY! DIDN'T HURT ANYTHING BUT THE HAYSTACK!
IT'S A MIRACLE!
VOLTO
IT'S NO MIRACLE FOR VOLTO! HE'S FROM MARS WHERE EVERYONE HAS THAT MAGNETIC POWER!
AND THEY RECHARGE THEIR MAGNETISM BY EATING WHOLE GRAIN CEREALS EVERY DAY!
YOU'RE IN LUCK! THE BEST-TASTING CEREAL ON EARTH IS GRAPE-NUTS FLAKES!
LADY, LEAD ME TO THEM! MY MAGNETISM NEEDS RECHARGING RIGHT NOW!
NO KIDDING, GRAPE-NUTS FLAKES GIVE YOU PLENTY OF ENERGY... AND THEY'RE THE SWELLEST-TASTING WHOLE-GRAIN CEREAL YOU EVER STARTED A DAY WITH! GET SOME AND TRY 'EM!

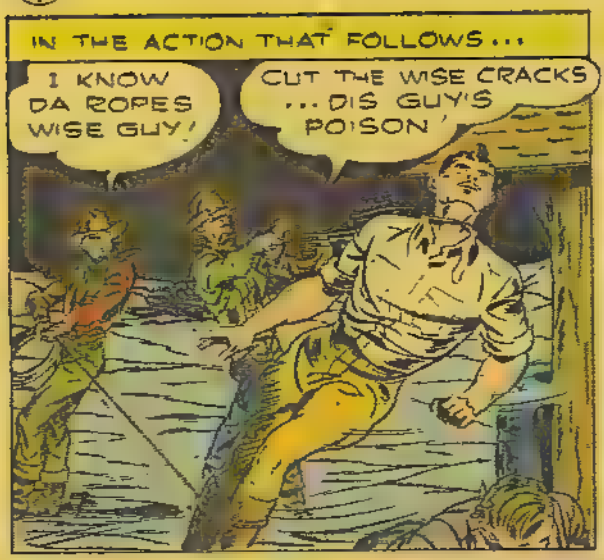
TUNE IN HOP HARRIGAN BLUE NETWORK MON. THRU FRI.

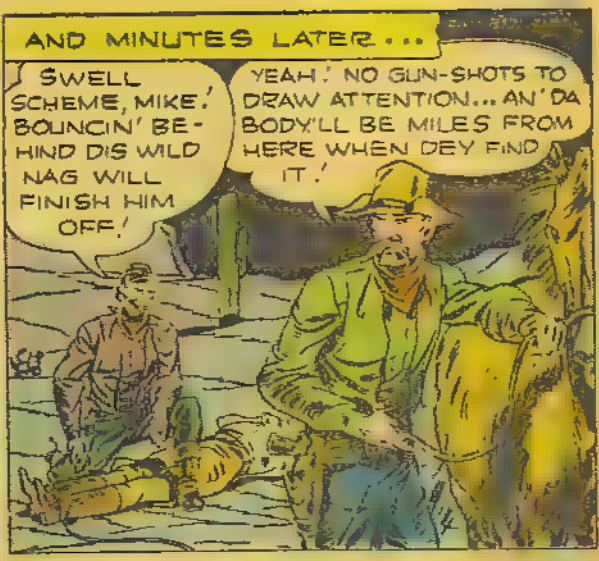
Around the Clock with Armor

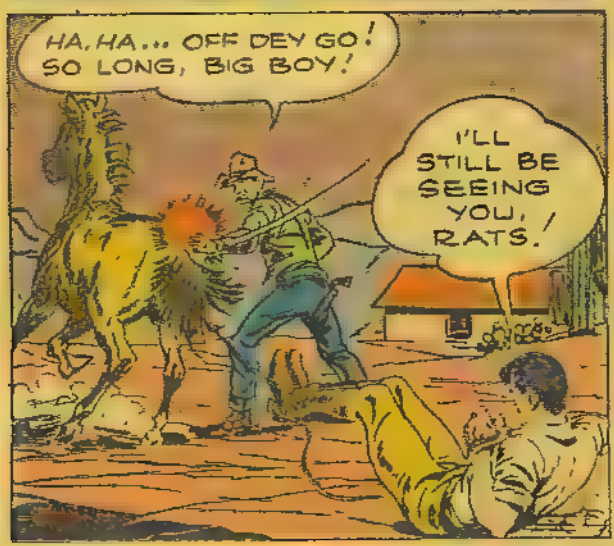
THE GREEKS & ROMANS
CHARLEMAGNE DEFEATED THE MOSLEMS AT TOURS IN 732
THE NORMAN INVASION IN 066 WAS LED BY WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR, WHO BECAME KING OF ENGLAND
THE CRUSADERS FOUGHT TO LIBERATE THE HOLY LAND
WHEN KNIGHTHOOD WAS IN FLOWER - THE PERIOD OF IVANHOE, HERALDRY AND JOUSTING KNIGHTS
WEATHER NOT GUNS DEFEATED NAPOLEON IN RUSSIA
ALTHOUGH UNARMORED GEN. WASHINGTON WAS NEVER WOUNDED. ONCE HIS LIFE WAS SPARED BY A GENEROUS ENEMY, THE BRITISH MAJ FERGUSON
NO ARMOR IN OUR CIVIL WAR FOR SOLDIERS BUT SHIPS WERE IRONCLAD FOR THE FIRST TIME
WORLD WAR I BROUGHT THE STEELHELMET AND ARMORED TANK
BACK TO ARMOR! WORLD WAR II BOMBER HAS ARMORED HELMET FLAK VEST AND SPORRAN
THE MUSKET AND CANNON MADE ARMOR SEEM USELESS

CONGO BILL
AS "THE NIGHT HAS A THOUSAND EYES," CRIME ALSO WEARS A THOUSAND FACES! BUT CONGO BILL, REMORSELESS ARBITER OF JUSTICE, IS SELDOM HOODWINKED BY ITS CRAFTIEST DISGUISES... AND YET, DOWN BY THE RIO, AN APPARENTLY INNOCENT-LOOKING WELL TEACHES THE LONE MAN-HUNTER A NEW TWIST IN DOUBLE DEALING AND DANGER, WHEN HE IS SERVED FOR THE NIGHT WITH...
"ROOM, BOARD--AND BULLETS!"
HOWDY, FRIEND... WONDER IF YOU COULD PUT ME UP FOR THE NIGHT?
HUH? ER... YEAH! SURE, JUST AS SOON AS I FINISH LOWERING MY FOOD DOWN IN THIS WELL TO COOL!
THANKS, FRIEND, FOR THE HOSPITALITY. (HMM... HE KEEPS PLENTY OF GUNS AROUND!)
GUESS IT'S OKAY... IF IT'S JUST FER T NIGHT!

AND AFTER A MEAL EATEN IN STONY SILENCE . . .
GUESS I'LL TURN IN. THAT MY BUNK THERE?
YEAH. MINE'S IN THE OTHER ROOM
HE SURE IS AN UNSOCIABLE CUSS!
HOURS LATER . . .
WHEW, IT'S HOT... HAVEN'T SLEPT A WINK, AND I'M PARCHED! GUESS MY SURLY HOST WON'T BE-GRUDGE ME A DRINK OF COOL WATER!
HMM . . . THIS WINDLASS WORKS EASY... AS THOUGH THERE WASN'T ANYTHING ON IT!
STRANGE, THE BUCKET'S GONE! AND THE ROPE'S NOT BROKEN, BUT UNTIED!
UNEXPECTEDLY . . .
THIS'LL END YER SNOOPIN', CONGO BILL!
BUT WITH A SHARP UPWARD MOTION OF HIS PINIONED ELBOWS, CONGO BILL DISENGAGES THE NOOSE . . .
DON'T BE TOO SURE, MY FRIEND
YOW! GO FOR HIM, FELLAS!
2

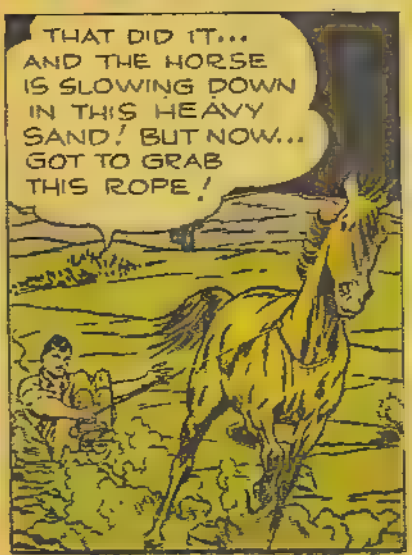

IN THE ACTION THAT FOLLOWS...
I KNOW DA ROPES WISE GUY!
CUT THE WISE CRACKS ... DIS GUY'S POISON!


AND MINUTES LATER...
SWELL SCHEME, MIKE! BOUNCIN' BEHIND DIS WILD NAG WILL FINISH HIM OFF!
YEAH! NO GUN-SHOTS TO DRAW ATTENTION... AN' DA BODY'LL BE MILES FROM HERE WHEN DEY FIND IT!


HA, HA... OFF DEY GO! SO LONG, BIG BOY!
I'LL STILL BE SEEING YOU, RATS!

UHH... ROUGH GOING! BUT IF I COULD ONLY GET MY WRISTS LOOSE...

JUST THEN...
HERE'S MY CHANCE...THAT ROCK LOOKS SHARP ENOUGH TO DO THE TRICK!


THAT DID IT... AND THE HORSE IS SLOWING DOWN IN THIS HEAVY SAND! BUT NOW... GOT TO GRAB THIS ROPE!

AND THEN, WITH THE ENERGY BORN OF DESPERATION, CONGO BILL PULLS HIMSELF TO THE HORSE'S HEAD!
WHETHER YOU WANT TO OR NOT, BRONCO, YOU'RE GOING TO SLOW DOWN AND LET ME COME ABOARD!

MY RETURN IS GOING TO BE A BIG SURPRISE FOR SOMEBODY!
HMM... THE PLACE IS DESERTED! BUT I THINK I'LL HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT THIS OLD WELL!
ITS SECRET SEEMED TO BE MIGHTY IMPORTANT TO MY HOST... WHATEVER IT IS!
WHY IT'S A DRY WELL AND OPENS INTO A CAVE! AND THERE'S A LIGHT FARTHER ON
AH, AND THERE ARE THE FOOD CONTAINERS MY HOST SAID HE WAS LOWERING DOWN HERE TO COOL!
WHUPS... VOICES, AND COMING THIS WAY! I'LL JUST LIE LOW FOR A BIT!
WELL NOW THAT CONGO BILL HAS BEEN TAKEN CARE OF, WE CAN...
P-S-S-T, A BOOT LIKE HE WEARS- BEHIND THERE!

GOT HIM IN THE FOOT... WH... WHAT? THE BOOT'S EMPTY!
NOT AS EMPTY AS YOU THINK!
OW! MY HAND!
HEY, OUR DIAMONDS!
COME ON... GET HIM, BOYS! HE'S WISE!
ALL RIGHT, BRIGHT EYES ... LET'S SEE HOW YOU WORK IN THE DARK!
I GOT HIM!
SORRY PAL...
BANG!
BUT I HAVE GOT YOU!
UKK!
YOU FELLOWS LACK TEAM-WORK!
YOW!
YOU SHOULD GET TOGETHER MORE.. MAYBE LIKE THIS!
UHHH!
ARGH!

SO... ONE OF YOU WANTS MORE, EH?
A-H-H-H!
NOW, LIKE GOOD LITTLE BOYS, GET UP AND BE MY GUIDES! I WANT TO SEE THE OTHER END OF THE TUNNEL!
AND PRESENTLY...
SO... SMUGGLING DIAMONDS, EH? WITH ONE ENTRANCE IN MEXICO AND THE OTHER IN THE STATES, THIS TUNNEL MADE AN EXCELLENT COOLER... BUT NOT FOR FOOD!
U.S.
MEX.
AND LATER...
THEESE EES A SPLENDID JOB, SENOR CONGO BILL! WE 'AVE TRY TO TRAP THEESE SMUGGLERS MANY DAYS NOW!
FORGET IT, CAPTAIN! YOU FELLOWS HAVE DONE SOME PRETTY GOOD JOBS YOURSELVES, I HAPPEN TO KNOW!
BY THE WAY, CAPTAIN, A STARTED TO GET A DRINK OF WATER LAST NIGHT, WHEN THE RUMPUS BEGAN...I'M AFRAID I WAS INTERRUPTED... I WONDER IF YOU COULD OBLIGE ME?
THAT SURE IS A REMARKABLE MACHINE!
YOU BET! YOU PUT MONEY IN ONE END--- AND LOOK AT ALL THE THINGS THAT COME OUT THE OTHER END!
--AND THOSE ARE ALL THE THINGS WE NEED FOR FINAL VICTORY, FOLKS--SO KEEP ON BUYING WAR BONDS!

A WIN FOR PACKY

by Ted Loury

THAT young fellow with the cauliflower ears? Mister you must be a stranger hereabouts, not knowing Packy Starr. Awful lot of strangers coming in to town for the big celebration tomorrow. Got so many we don't have room enough in this hotel to hold 'em. Newspaper people, and people from the radio and newsreels.

Gosh, I guess you know all about that, seein' as how you're a newspaperman, too. Huh? You don't remember seein' Packy Starr fight? Oh he fought a lot around New York State and over in Massachussets and Connecticut, too. He got them ears from a coal miner named Willie Polonski.

Guess they don't look very pretty on a young feller mister, but you got to expect things like that in the fight game. They sure don't hurt Packy's hearing none now.

Naw, he's through with the ring. You musta heard of that. But you really ought to know the story. It looked for a while to us folks around town like the ring was through with him. Nobody likes a guy who's yellow, mister.

You see mister Packy Starr was the first half way decent fighter ever to come out of this town. He always liked fightin'. I know 'cause I been watching that boy nigh onto twenty-six years now. And like most of this town I was pretty proud of him.

We all liked Packy. He was a good boy, just doing the little things boys are likely to do mister, just like you and me did when we were kids. Those tricks are still the same, only the background changes. Where we used to have fun with a horse and buggy, they have it with automobiles now. And airyplanes.

Packy liked to fight and he was always getting into scrapes. He was no bully, take it from me mister. He only fought for sport or when it was forced on him. There wasn't a bully big enough in town to take Packy when he was fourteen. By the time Packy was seventeen and won that high school feather weight championship, everybody knew he was going to be a fighter.

Naturally, his Maw and Paw wanted him to be something else. I know his Maw had her heart set on him goin' into the clergy, or being a doctor. His Paw wasn't quite that way. He allus figured a boy, when he got to be seventeen, should know what he wanted. So the day he asked Packy, why the kid just up and said

"Paw, I want to be the best fighter in the world."

I remember that day, and how proud his Paw was goin' into the barbershop of a Saturday afternoon and telling the boys. "My kid Packy says he's going to be world's champeen one of these days. I'm going to let him fight."

Everybody liked that no end and Mayor Jenks said it would be a wonderful thing for the town to have a world's champion living in it.

Well, Packy got to be a fighter. He started off slow, just doing some amateur boxing and learning how to be fast and hit hard. He was a clever boy, and when he took the State championship Jimmy Jensen that one they call the Wise Old Man of Boxing was sitting at the ringside.

Ten minutes after the fight—Packy kayoed his man in the third—Jensen and Packy's Paw they got together on the contract. There was only one bad thing—Packy's Maw was not feeling too well and the boy's Paw figured he ought to stay with her. Gosh, how he wanted to go out and see that kid fight every fight. But he knew he just couldn't do it. It helped some to take out the sting when Packy said "Don't worry, Paw, I'll call home after every fight."

Packy's a good boy like I said and he kept his promise. Jensen kept his, too, and brought Packy along carefully. It was easy enough to see that he was building the boy up for a crack at the lightweight championship.

Maybe you remember some of Packy's fights. He won thirty in a row before he came up before Stinger Gurk, the guy who almost beat the champ. I got to give that Stinger credit. He was a dirty fighter just like some folks say, but he had plenty on the ball all the same. There wasn't a man around, besides the Champ, who could beat him.

I still got an idea that Jimmy Jensen would have stalled for another six months before letting Packy meet Stinger. And I know why you see. Stinger would be six months older and that can count a lot in a ring. But Packy, who was on the way up, would have six months more experience under his belt and that might have helped him beat Stinger.

The sportswriters thought different. So did Packy when he kept reading what the boxing writers said. Was he afraid to meet him? What was the matter with Jensen? I can't say

I blame them writers After all, it's controversy that keeps your columns going isn't it, mister? They were only doing what they thought was their job And Packy, instead of listening to Jensen, strung with them Well, he got his fight

It was a great night Nearly all of our town turned out, got a special train to New York Packy's Maw and Paw were plenty proud to see the way thousands of people in that ball park screamed out their kid's name And even during that third round when everybody turned against Packy, they still felt proud

I don't know whether you saw the fight mister If you didn't Stinger got to Packy in the second and give him everything he had Packy took an awful beating in that round, and I was sittin' close enough to the ring to see him when he came to his corner His face was white His Maw, sittin' next to me, trembled and said: "That boy's been hurt bad"

"Nonsense, Mrs. Starr," I said "You got to expect that"

I was wrong He got up for the third and he seemed sort of dazed Anybody can forgive that But then he started to back away, and then practically run away By the seventh round, Stinger was screaming to Packy to come on and fight. The crowd was yelling to throw him out of the ring In the eighth Packy went down and didn't come up again I'll have to admit, mister, that kid sure looked yellow

The sportswriters murdered him next day, called him a tank-town stumble bum who had had a lot of lucky breaks because Jimmy Jensen had hand-picked his opponents

Everybody in our town waited for an explanation from Packy but none came Jensen got him another fight down in Mexico He was belted out in the second He called his Maw after the fight, though Gosh, that woman sure worried about the kid Packy's Paw did too He even called Jensen to see if he could do something. But Jensen just said the kid had been unlucky "He'll pull out of it Pop," he said "He's a champ"

But Packy didn't pull out of it He had five more fights and everywhere he went, it was the same They called him a quitter yellow He wasn't anything like the old Packy Starr It darn near broke his Maw's heart when she seen him just before he went back to the

THESE BOYS ARE GIVING THEIR ALL

Let's Do Our Bit By Buying MORE WAR BONDS Than We Can Afford

Coast He had those ears then But his Maw didn't say anything just kissed him and mothered him to death before he went back I remember her telling me "I'm sure there's something wrong with my boy, no matter what he says"

"Anybody says he's yellow can answer to me" I says to her "I'll whip the daylights out of him"

Well, Packy wouldn't quit the ring and finally Jensen called his Paw and said he'd have to quit managing the kid. "It's the only thing, Mr. Starr," Jensen says. "Then maybe he'll quit fighting. In thirty years of handling fighters I've never seen a boy go down so fast." He really liked Packy, too

Then all of a sudden Packy disappears, just like that His Maw is nearly frantic until she gets a note from a friend of Packy's He's down South, getting into condition for another fight and he'll write her soon Packy's Maw is all for going down to see him, but the boy's Paw is dead against it. "Let him work it out for himself," he says, "if that's the way the boy wants it"

So they sit and wait, these two old people, and a couple of months go by Jensen calls and says Packy's okay, coming along fine "Packy says not to worry," Jensen tells the Starrs "He's always called you after a fight, and he'll do it again"

Well, mister, I got to get back to work. Oh, the call? No, Packy didn't make it after the fight. He couldn't. Knocked out? Naw, he wasn't knocked out Matter of fact, mister, he took on six of 'em and they had a machine gun It was at a place called Guadalcanal. Yeah he became a fightin' fool, all right He had found his fighting place as you know, Guadalcanal, Tarawa, and Saipan That's how come they don't call him Packy anymore They're callin' him Commando now

Say, what paper you from mister, that you don't know about Packy Oh, an Australian newspaper Pleased to meet you, Mr Jones My name's Starr—and that Marine with the cauliflower ear is my boy—and Maw's! Incidentally, Mr Jones about those ears. Them Marine doctors found out something was pressing on Packy's brain and they fixed it And all through those civilian fights that kid was too proud to offer an alibi He took the pain And we're honoring him tomorrow just like the Government did

VIGILANTE
IT WAS ONLY A SMALL PIECE OF METAL! COULD IT BE WORTH MORE THAN A FEW CENTS AT MOST! WELL, TWO HARD-HEADED STEEL TYCOONS THOUGHT SO, AND WERE WILLING TO PAY A FORTUNE FOR ITS RETURN! AND THE VIGILANTE AND STUFF LEARNED ITS VALUE THE HARD WAY WHEN THEY FOUND THEMSELVES FORCED TO FIGHT UNSCRUPULOUS RIVAL SEARCHERS WHO WERE IRRESISTIBLY DRAWN TO THIS...
"MAGNET FOR MOBSTERS!"
BY MORT MORTON JR.

NEAR A SMALL GREAT LAKES MINING TOWN, A HUGE CHEMICAL LABORATORY GOES UP IN FLAMES...
WE COULDN'T STEAL THOSE NOTES ABOUT THE EXPERIMENTS, MR. HOGLETT, SO WE SET FIRE TO THE PLACE...
WHAT! YOU FOOLS... I WOULD HAVE PAID YOU A HUNDRED THOUSAND FOR THE SECRET OF THAT NEW STEEL ALLOY!
STILL, IT'S BETTER DESTROYED THAN IN THE POSSESSION OF MY CLOSEST COMPETITOR...
AMONG THE INTERESTED SPECTATORS OF THE RUINS, FOLLOWING THE BLAZE, ARE GREG SANDERS, THE PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR, AND HIS PAL, STUFF...
COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AN ACCIDENT, GREG?
MAYBE SO, MAYBE NOT!
-- ALSO THE VICTIM AND THE VICTIMIZER!
SORRY THIS HAPPENED, MR. BAKER I'M IN THE STEEL BUSINESS MYSELF... BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I WISH ANY HARM TO MY COMPETITORS!
THANKS, HOGLETT!
FORTUNATELY, ALTHOUGH THE LABORATORY AND DATA ARE LOST, THE RESULTS OF THE EXPERIMENTS ARE NOT!
SHORTLY BEFORE THE FIRE, MY CHEMISTS SENT ME THIS CYLINDER OF ALLOY STEEL THEY HAD MADE! IT HAS THE HIGHLY MAGNETIC QUALITIES I WANT-- AND TO FIND OUT WHAT'S IN IT, ALL I NEED DO IS HAVE IT ANALYZED!

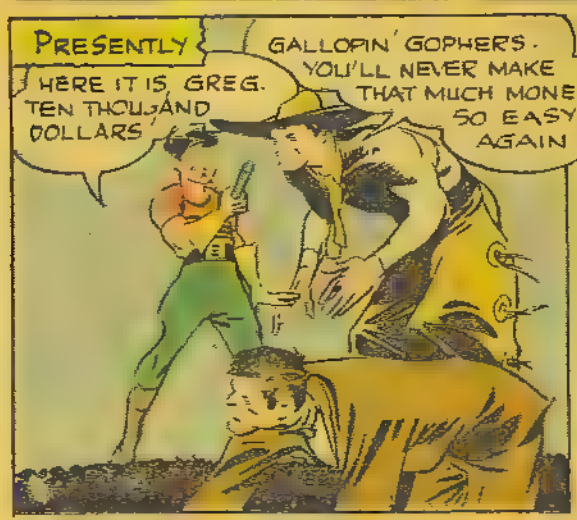
YES, THIS BIT OF METAL IS WORTH MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS TO ME.
WOW! DID YOU HEAR THAT, GREG?

SCANT MOMENTS LATER...
WELL, GREG, GUESS WE'VE SEEN EVERYTHING... HEY, WHAT'S WRONG NOW?
YOU FELLOWS THERE -- DID YOU SEE A LITTLE METAL CYLINDER?

ITS WEIGHT TORE A HOLE IN MY POCKET -- IT MUST HAVE FALLEN AROUND HERE!
OKAY STUFF -- LET'S SEE IF WE CAN FIND IT!

BUT A PRELIMINARY SEARCH FAILS TO YIELD RESULTS..
GOOD! I'LL GIVE TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE MAN WHO FINDS IT
HEAR THAT, FRANKIE? MAYBE HOGLETT WOULD WANT DAT HUNKA IRON, TOO!

MOMENTS LATER...
I JUST PHONED HOGLETT! HE SAYS HE'LL PAY A HUNNERD GRAND! COME ON, CHUM... LOOK HARD!


PRESENTLY
HERE IT IS, GREG. TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS!
GALLOPIN' GOPHERS. YOU'LL NEVER MAKE THAT MUCH MONEY SO EASY AGAIN!

HUH..?
I HATE TA DO DIS, SAP... BUT HAND DAT OVER, OR ELSE!
3

AS EAGER FINGERS SNATCH AT FORTUNE, UNEXPECTEDLY--
HEY... DA GROUND'S CAVIN' IN!
WE'VE BEEN STANDING ON A PILE OF IRON ORE!
HERE WE GO!
THAT'S A DIRTY TRICK, CUTTING THE GROUND AWAY FROM US!
AS THE FOUR FIGURES FLOUNDER HELPLESSLY, A PRECIOUS CYLINDER ENDS ITS FLIGHT...
WHEN GREG SANDERS AND STUFF FINALLY FIND FIRM GROUND BENEATH THEIR FEET...
THOSE CROOKS HAVE GONE! WE'RE OUT TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS!
THEY DIDN'T GET IT EITHER, STUFF! I SAW THE DINGUS FALL BELOW! WE'LL LOOK THERE!
IT ISN'T HERE! ALL THIS GROUND HAS BEEN CLEARED BY THAT STEAM SHOVEL-- THE CYLINDER MUST BE MIXED IN WITH THE ORE!
THEN IT MUST BE IN THE ORE CAR THAT JUST LEFT, HEADED FOR THE LAKE! WE'LL HAVE TO CATCH IT!
BUT I'D BETTER CHANGE COSTUMES FIRST! THOSE CROOKS MAY LOOK FOR IT, TOO!

NEW CLOTHES MAKE A NEW MAN.' THE PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR QUICKLY BECOMES THE VIGILANTE, AND PRESENTLY . . .
SHUCKS, VIGILANTE, I JUST EMPTIED THE ORE INTO A CONVEYOR THAT GOES TO THE MAGNETIC SEPARATOR SYSTEM.'
THEN THAT'S OUR NEXT STOP.' HURRY, STUFF.'
IS THAT IT?
THAT'S IT THE ORE AND ROCK ARE CARRIED IN ON THAT LOWER BELT.' BUT THE ELECTRO MAGNET ON TOP ATTRACTS THE ORE--
THAT'S RIGHT--BEING IRON ORE, IT'S MAGNETIC.'
SO THE ORE STICKS TO THE UPPER BELT, AND IS DUMPED INTO A HOPPER, LEAVING THE WORTHLESS ROCK BEHIND.'
AND THAT METAL CYLINDER WE WANT, BEING MAGNETIC, MUST GO WITH THE ORE.'
THEN IT MUST BE IN THAT HOPPER NOW.'
CAN'T BE SURE OF THAT-- BY NOW IT MAY BE IN THE SHIP'S HOLD. AND IF IT ISN'T, IT WILL BE SOON'
THAT MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO SEARCH THROUGH THOUSANDS OF TONS OF ORE.' GOSH, VIG, LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK IS NOTHING TO THIS'
YOU SAID IT, PARD.'
BUT WE WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO BEGIN LOOKING IF THE SHIP LEAVES.' SO I'LL CALL MR. BAKER AND GET HIM TO STOP IT.'
5

TOO LATE, VIGILANTE! FOR AS THE TELEPHONE CONNECTION IS MADE...
LUCKY I STAYED HERE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS! VIGILANTE AIN'T STOPPIN' THAT BOAT IF I CAN HELP IT!
SNIP!
THE PHONE'S JUST GONE DEAD!
GOSH, AND THE SHIP'S ABOUT READY TO LEAVE!
CLICK!
JUST ONE THING TO DO THEN, STUFF-- GO ALONG AND MAKE SURE WE'RE AROUND WHEN THAT ORE LEAVES THE SHIP!
MOMENTS LATER, A WHISTLE HOOTS IN WARNING, AND THE WESTERN WADDY AND HIS PAL SET OUT OVER THE TOSSING WATERS OF LAKE SUPERIOR!
WE USUALLY DON'T CARRY PASSENGERS, VIGILANTE... BUT IT'S A PLEASURE TO HAVE SOME ONE LIKE YOU ALONG!
THANKS, CAPTAIN! WE HOPE WE DON'T GET SEA-SICK!
BUT THERE ARE WORSE DANGERS THAN SEASICK-NESS IN STORE FOR THE VIGILANTE AND STUFF! AS NIGHT FALLS AND THE ORE FREIGHTER PLOWS AHEAD...
THERE SHE IS FRANKIE!
SEEIN' AS HOW WE CUT OUR MOTORS, AND COASTED UP TO DEM, DEY DIDN'T HEAR A TING! WE'LL CATCH 'EM BY SURPRISE!
YOU AIN'T GIVIN' NO ALARM, SAP!
AAAA...

BUT THE DULL THUD OF A BODY STRIKING THE DECK COMES TO THE PLAINSMAN'S EARS...
GALLOPIN' GOPHERS! LOOK WHO'S HERE, STUFF!
THUD!
FIRST I'LL GIVE HIM SOME ROPE--
HEY!
-- AND THEN I'LL HANG ONE ON HIM!
YIII...!
THIS LIFEBELT'S A LIFESAVER FOR ME!
OWWWW..!
UNEXPECTEDLY--
SORRY TO HURT YOUR FEELINGS-- UGH!
TRY DIS ON YOUR NOGGIN!
OOH!
AS THE MOBSTERS GAIN CONTROL---
STEER FER MR. HOGLETT'S PLACE! ONCE WE GET DERE, WE'LL BE ABLE TA LOOK FER DAT T'ING HE WANTS!
WHILE IN THE SHIP'S HOLD ---
GOSH, VIG... LOOKS LIKE THOSE CROOKS WANT THAT HUNK OF IRON AS MUCH AS WE DO! AND NOW WE CAN'T STOP THEM FROM TAKING IT!
MAYBE WE CAN, STUFF-- IF WE SUCCEED IN GETTING OUT OF HERE!

THIS LUMP OF IRON ORE IS HARD AND SHARP-EDGED, BUT I CAN'T TWIST IT BACK FAR ENOUGH TO CUT MY OWN ROPES.
BUT I CAN CUT YOURS!
SOON--
NOW TO GET BACK CONTROL OF THE SHIP!
NOT YET STUFF--I WANT TO SEE WHAT THEY DO WITH IT FIRST. THOSE CROOKS DON'T WANT THAT PIECE OF IRON FOR THEMSELVES--THEY'RE WORKING FOR SOMEBODY, AND I WANT TO KNOW WHO HE IS.
MEANWHILE, I'LL FREE THE CREW AND GET READY FOR ACTION!
HOURS LATER, AS THE VESSEL NEARS SHORE ...
HOGLETT STEEL WORKS! AND HOGLETT WAS THE COYOTE WE SAW TALKING TO BAKER!
HE MUST BE THE ONE WHO HIRED THOSE THUGS!
HOGLETT STEEL WORKS
KNOWING THAT, IT WON'T BE HARD TO MAKE THEM CONFESS! NOW TO GIVE THE SIGNAL TO THE CAPTAIN AND THE CREW...
HUH..? WHAT'S THAT?
BANG!

TIME FOR THE NEXT WATCH, RATTLER! TAKE THE WHEEL, STUFF--I WANT TO GIVE THE CAPTAIN A HAND!

THE LARRUPING LARIATEER'S POWER-PACKED FISTS PUT A QUICK END TO THE STRUGGLE, AND ONCE MORE THE VESSEL CHANGES HER COURSE!

NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO, VIG, IS FIND THAT LITTLE DINGUS IN ALL THOSE TONS OF IRON ORE!

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO? NOT EXACTLY, STUFF! WAITING AT THE DOCK IS AN ANGRY MAN WHO HAS NOT YET SHOT HIS LAST BOLT...

SOMETHING MUST HAVE GONE WRONG! FRANKIE SAID HE'D BRING THAT SHIPLOAD OF ORE HERE... AND THEN AT THE LAST MINUTE HE TURNED ASIDE!

BUT I'LL GET AHEAD OF THE VIGILANTE YET! FRANKIE CUT BAKER'S TELEPHONE WIRES--I'LL PHONE BAKER'S STEEL PLANT WITH A LITTLE PRACTICE, I CAN MAKE MY VOICE SOUND LIKE HIS!

AND SO, WHEN AT LAST THE VESSEL ANCHORS SAFELY--

VIGILANTE, I'M THE MANAGER OF MR BAKER'S STEEL MILLS! WE JUST GOT A CALL FROM MR. BAKER HIMSELF.

HE SAYS TO GO RIGHT AHEAD AND REDUCE THIS SHIPLOAD OF ORE IN THE BLAST FURNACES AS USUAL! HE HAS INFORMATION THAT THE OBJECT YOU WANT ISN'T IN IT!

WHA..? YOU CAN'T DO THAT, PARDNER! WE **KNOW** THAT DINGUS IS HERE!

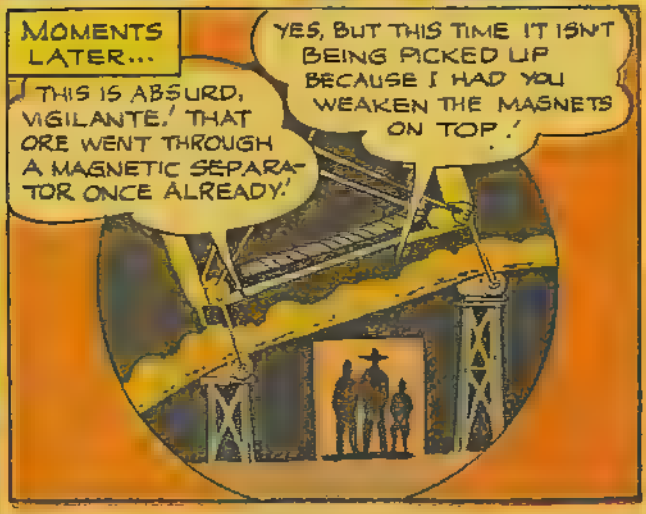
SORRY, VIGILANTE... ORDERS ARE ORDERS, AND BESIDES, WE NEED THAT ORE AT ONCE TO KEEP PRODUCTION GOING!

WE'RE REALLY SUNK NOW, VIG!

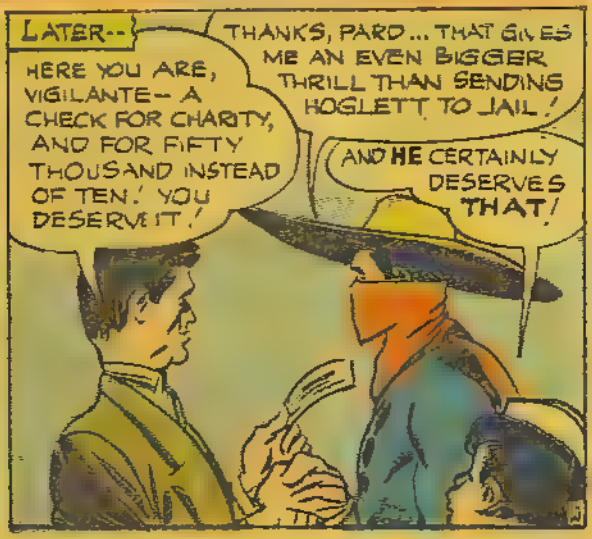
SLOWLY, A CONVEYOR BELT CARRIES THE MINERAL TOWARD THE HOPPER OF THE FIRST BLAST FURNACE...
THAT HUNK OF IRON WE WANT IS GONNA GET MELTED UP WITH ALL THIS ORE!
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT, STUFF!

STOP THAT THING, PARDNER, OR ELSE!
S-SURE, VIGILANTE!

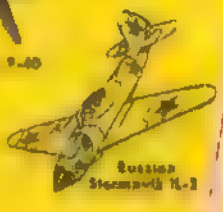
VIGILANTE, YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
I'M DOIN' IT, PARDNER! WHATEVER HAPPENS, I AIN'T LETTIN 'YOU MELT THAT ORE! NOW, IF YOU'LL JUST HOLD YOUR HOSSES A MINUTE, I GOT A SCHEME...


MOMENTS LATER...
THIS IS ABSURD, VIGILANTE! THAT ORE WENT THROUGH A MAGNETIC SEPARATOR ONCE ALREADY!
YES, BUT THIS TIME IT ISN'T BEING PICKED UP BECAUSE I HAD YOU WEAKEN THE MAGNETS ON TOP!

HOWEVER, THAT LITTLE DINGUS IS AN EXTRA STRONG MAGNET BECAUSE IT'S MADE OF A SPECIAL NEW ALLOY! IT STICKS TO THE UPPER BELT, LIKE I THOUGHT IT WOULD!
GOSH, VIG-- YOU DID FIND THE NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK!


LATER--
HERE YOU ARE, VIGILANTE-- A CHECK FOR CHARITY, AND FOR FIFTY THOUSAND INSTEAD OF TEN! YOU DESERVE IT!
THANKS, PARD... THAT GIVES ME AN EVEN BIGGER THRILL THAN SENDING HOGLETT TO JAIL!
AND HE CERTAINLY DESERVES THAT!

SPECIAL BARGAIN OFFER



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ZATARA
THE MASTER MAGICIAN

REMEMBER THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN?.. AND JACK WITH THE TERRIBLE GIANT HE FOUND AT THE TOP OF THE BEANSTALK? AND, OF COURSE, YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD AND THE HEROIC DUTCH BOY WHO SAVED THE DIKES OF HOLLAND!... JUST FAIRY TALE HEROES, YOU SAY? WELL, PERHAPS YES AND PERHAPS NO! ANYWAY, LET'S GO ALONG WITH ZATARA AS THIS MARVELOUS MAN OF MAGIC APPARENTLY REVEALS CERTAIN ...

"FACTS ABOUT FABLES!"

IN THE LIVING ROOM OF THE TIMMS FAMILY, LITTLE JIMMY EAGERLY SCANS HIS FAVORITE READING...

OH BOY! HERE ARE FOUR TALES I HAVEN'T READ! LET'S SEE, ABOUT A PIED PIPER, AND A GIANT BEANSTALK... AND HERE'S THIS MONTH'S ZATARA STORY!

GOODNESS, GEORGE! WHAT AN ACTIVE IMAGINATION OUR CHILD HAS!

COME ON, JIMMY, YOU SHOULD BE IN BED! UP YOU GO!

IT'S NO USE, I CAN'T READ THEM ALL, AT ONCE! Y-A-W-N!

A MAGIC BEANSTALK, A DREADED GIANT, A PIPER'S FLUTE, AND A DUTCH BOY FIGHTING A BATTLE AGAINST THE SEA! Y-A-W-N! I WONDER WHAT HAPPENS?

DON'T WORRY, YOU'LL FIND OUT TOMORROW!

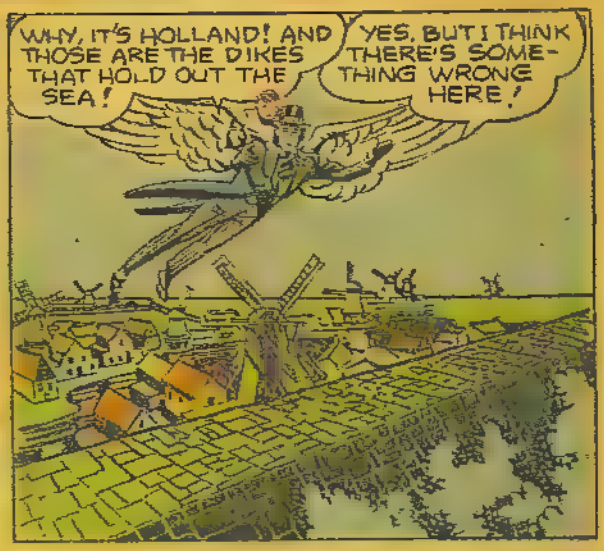
FAIRY TALES

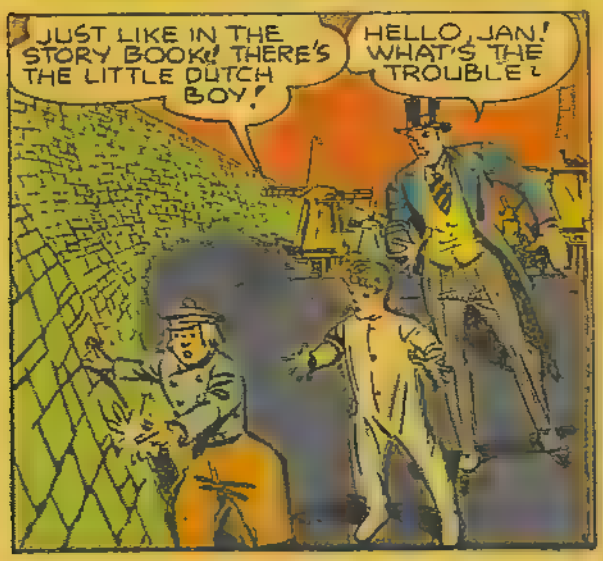
SEE, I'M LEAVING THEM RIGHT HERE AT THE FOOT OF YOUR BED!
THANK YOU, MOTHER! THEN I'LL FINISH THEM WHEN I WAKE UP! OOOH, I'M SO SLEEPY!

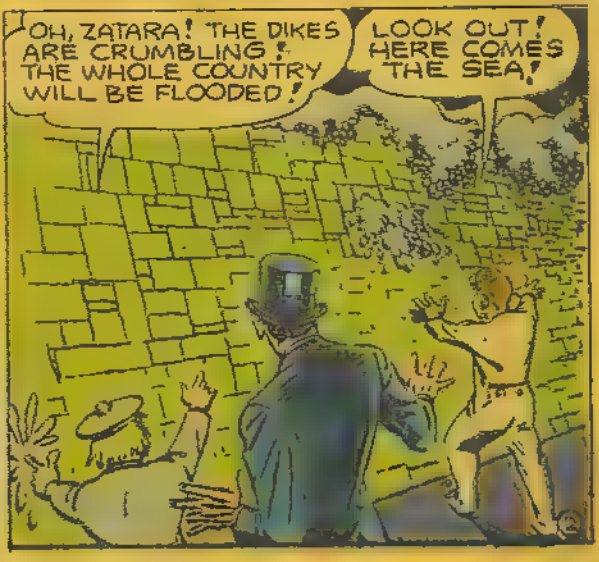
SHHH! HE WENT RIGHT OFF TO DREAM-LAND!
THE GIANT IS CHASING JACK TO HIS BEANSTALK, AND RED RIDING HOOD IS IN THE WOODS, AND...

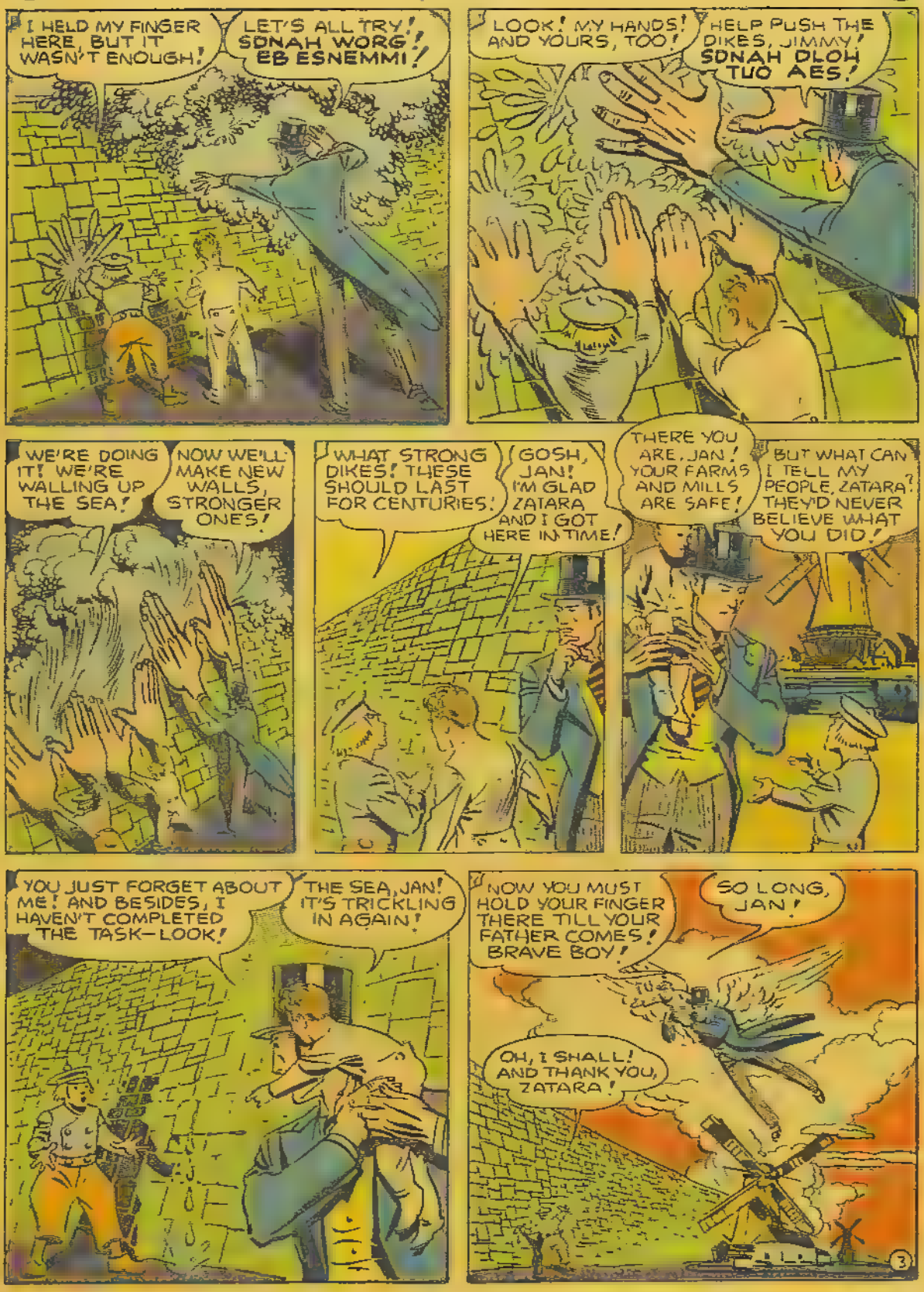
WHY, IT'S ZATARA, THE GREAT MAGICIAN!
YES, JIMMY! YOU SEEMED ANXIOUS ABOUT THOSE STORIES YOU DIDN'T FINISH! HOW ABOUT A LITTLE TRIP?

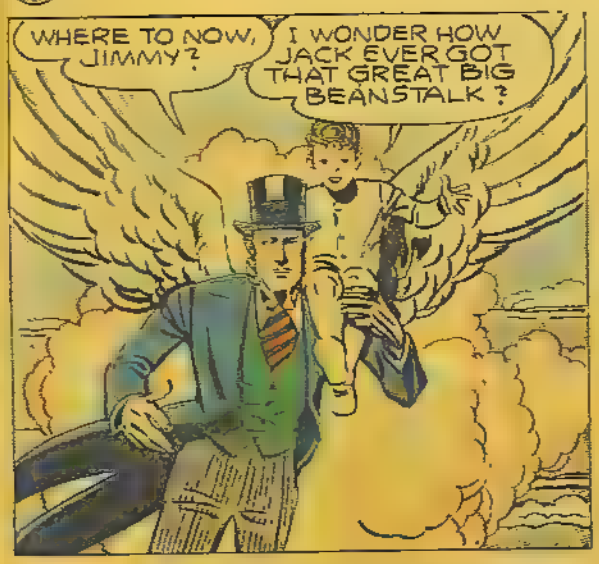
GOSH, ZATARA! WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT IN HOLLAND? I MEAN WHEN...
JUST HOLD ON TIGHT, JIMMY, AND LET'S SEE! ARATAZ DNA YMMIJ OG OTNI TSAP!*
*READ ZATARA'S MAGIC WORD'S BACKWARDS!

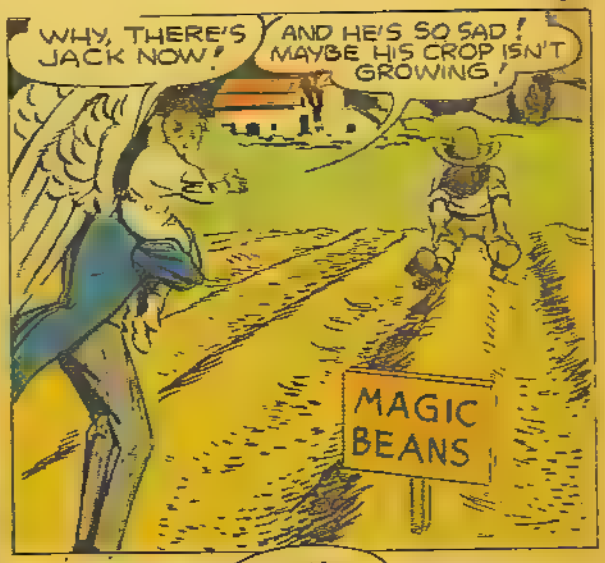

WHY, IT'S HOLLAND! AND THOSE ARE THE DIKES THAT HOLD OUT THE SEA!
YES, BUT I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE!


JUST LIKE IN THE STORY BOOK! THERE'S THE LITTLE DUTCH BOY!
HELLO, JAN! WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?


OH, ZATARA! THE DIKES ARE CRUMBLING! THE WHOLE COUNTRY WILL BE FLOODED!
LOOK OUT! HERE COMES THE SEA!

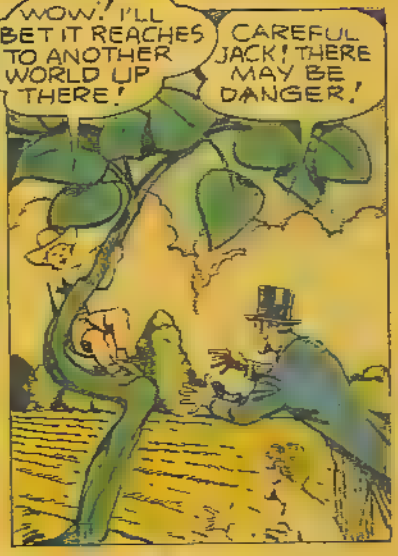

I HELD MY FINGER HERE, BUT IT WASN'T ENOUGH!
LET'S ALL TRY! SDNAH WORG! EB ESNEMMI!
LOOK! MY HANDS! AND YOURS, TOO!
HELP PUSH THE DIKES, JIMMY! SDNAH DLOH TUO AES!
WE'RE DOING IT! WE'RE WALLING UP THE SEA!
NOW WE'LL MAKE NEW WALLS, STRONGER ONES!
WHAT STRONG DIKES! THESE SHOULD LAST FOR CENTURIES!
GOSH, JAN! I'M GLAD ZATARA AND I GOT HERE IN TIME!
THERE YOU ARE, JAN! YOUR FARMS AND MILLS ARE SAFE!
BUT WHAT CAN I TELL MY PEOPLE, ZATARA? THEY'D NEVER BELIEVE WHAT YOU DID!
YOU JUST FORGET ABOUT ME! AND BESIDES, I HAVEN'T COMPLETED THE TASK—LOOK!
THE SEA, JAN! IT'S TRICKLING IN AGAIN!
NOW YOU MUST HOLD YOUR FINGER THERE TILL YOUR FATHER COMES! BRAVE BOY!
SO LONG, JAN!
OH, I SHALL! AND THANK YOU, ZATARA!
3

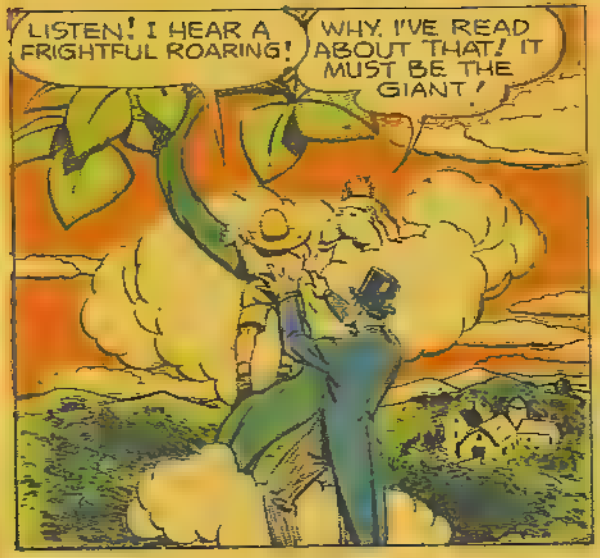

WHERE TO NOW, JIMMY?
I WONDER HOW JACK EVER GOT THAT GREAT BIG BEANSTALK?


WHY, THERE'S JACK NOW!
AND HE'S SO SAD! MAYBE HIS CROP ISN'T GROWING!
MAGIC BEANS

COULD YOU HELP ME, ZATARA? I PLANTED THESE MAGIC BEANS, BUT NOTHING HAPPENS!
HMM...PERHAPS YOU DIDN'T SAY THE RIGHT WORDS!
MAGIC BEANS

NAEB KLATS, WORG EGUH!


WOW! I'LL BET IT REACHES TO ANOTHER WORLD UP THERE!
CAREFUL JACK! THERE MAY BE DANGER!

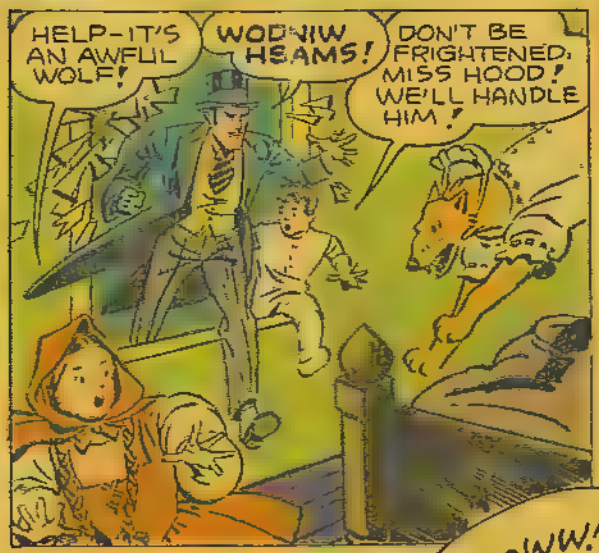

LISTEN! I HEAR A FRIGHTFUL ROARING!
WHY, I'VE READ ABOUT THAT! IT MUST BE THE GIANT!

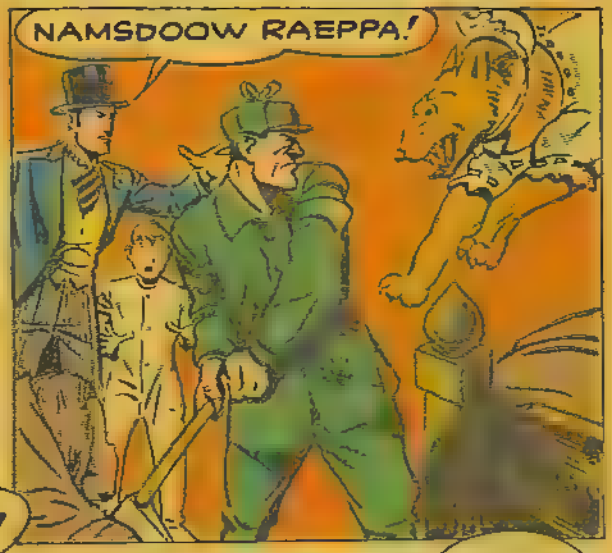
AND NOT A FRIENDLY ONE, EITHER!
HO! HO! I EAT LITTLE BOYS! AND LITTLE MAGICIANS, TOO!
4

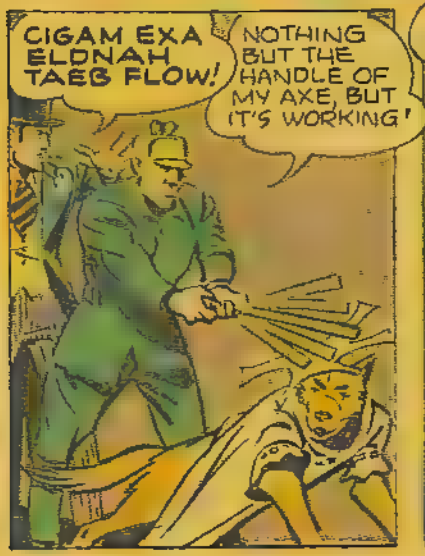
BUT NOT US! NAEB KLATS TIH RETSNOM!
GET US BACK TO EARTH, ZATARA! THAT BEANSTALK WASN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA!
OOMPFF!
KLATS DNIB TNAIG!
THAT'LL HOLD HIM, JACK!
HE'S POWERLESS — BUT NOT FOR LONG! QUICKLY, SLIDE DOWN THAT BEANSTALK!
I WAS THE FIRST UP, AND I HOPE I'M THE FIRST DOWN!
GOSH, ZATARA — THIS AXE DIDN'T USE TO BE SO SHARP!
S'KCAJ EXA POHC RETSAF! HTRAE NEPO!
TNAIG LLAF OT S'HTRAE RETNEC!
I'LL NEVER TRY TO GROW MAGIC BEANS AGAIN! NOSIRREE!
I'M GOING TO BE A GOOD FARMER BOY FROM NOW ON! WHY I'LL EVEN PLANT SPINACH! AND EAT IT, TOO!
ZATARA, I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN RED RIDING HOOD?
5

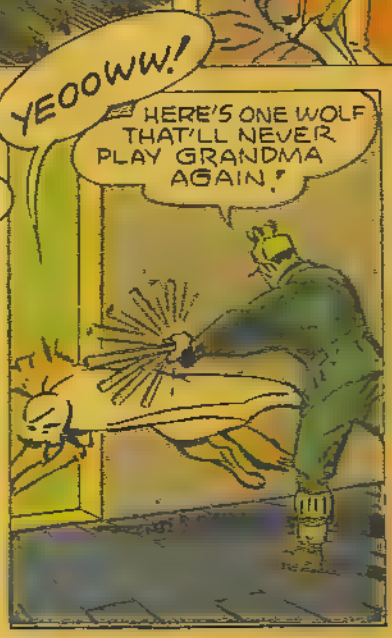
SSSH! THERE SHE IS, JIMMY!
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD! BUT I'LL BET THE CRUEL WOLF'S ALREADY IN THAT CABIN!

HELLO, GRANDMA!
HELLO, DEARIE! HOW PRETTY YOU LOOK—WHAT A TENDER MORSEL!

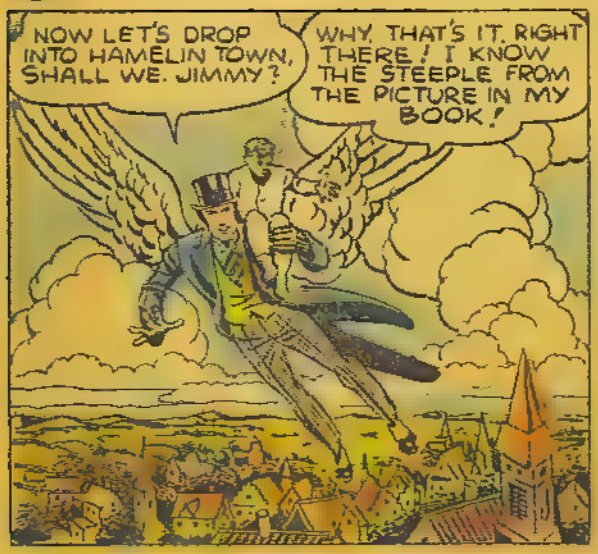

HELP—IT'S AN AWFUL WOLF!
WODNIW HEAMS!
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED, MISS HOOD! WE'LL HANDLE HIM!

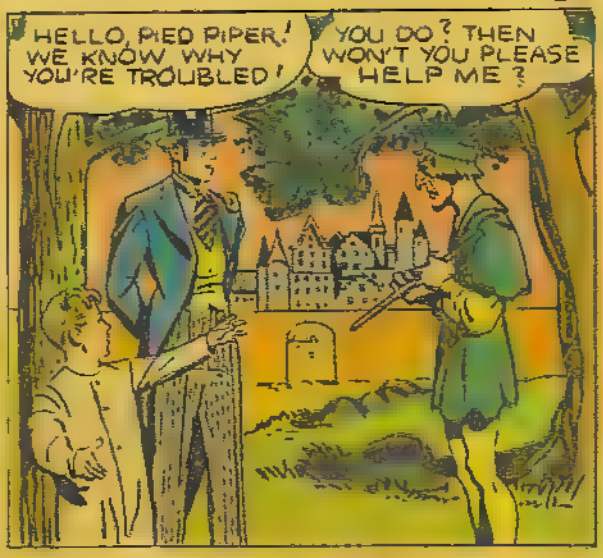

NAMSDOOW RAEPPA!


CIGAM EXA ELDNAH TAEB FLOW!
NOTHING BUT THE HANDLE OF MY AXE, BUT IT'S WORKING!

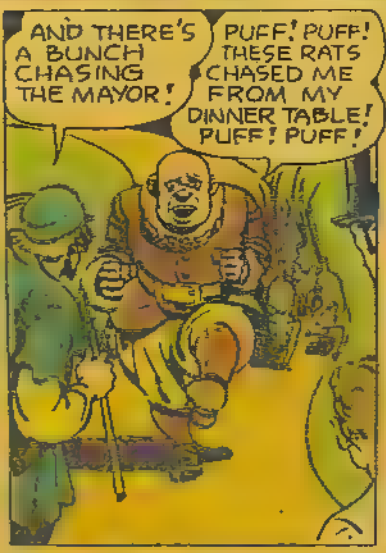

YEOOWW!
HERE'S ONE WOLF THAT'LL NEVER PLAY GRANDMA AGAIN!

OH, THANK YOU, ZATARA! AND YOU TOO, JIMMY!
THANK THE WOODSMAN WHEN HE COMES BACK! HE REALLY SLEW THE WOLF!

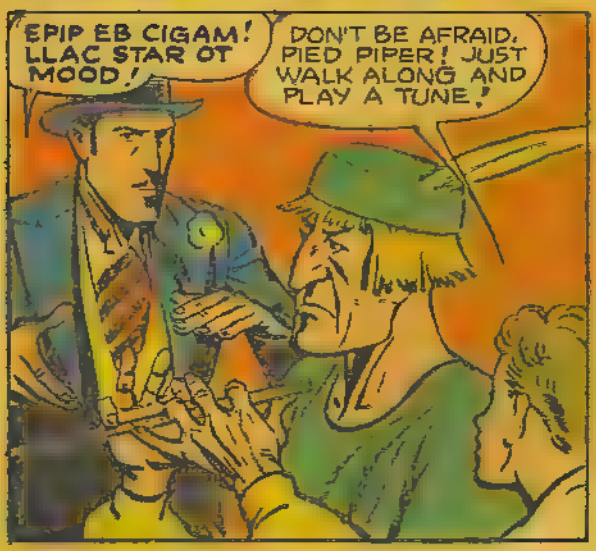

NOW LET'S DROP INTO HAMELIN TOWN, SHALL WE, JIMMY?
WHY, THAT'S IT, RIGHT THERE! I KNOW THE STEEPLE FROM THE PICTURE IN MY BOOK!

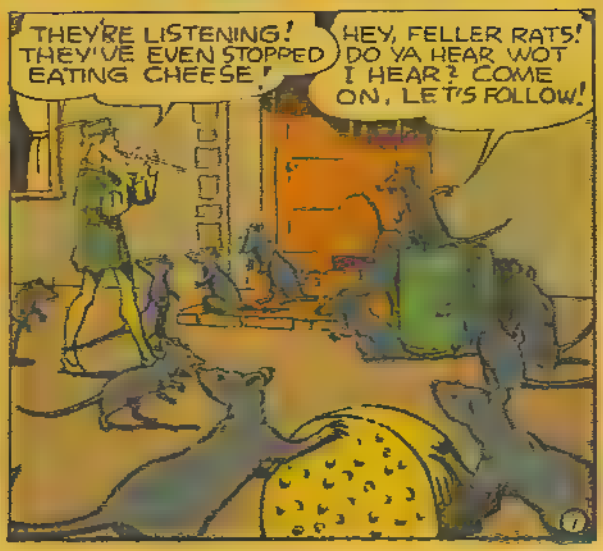

HELLO, PIED PIPER! WE KNOW WHY YOU'RE TROUBLED!
YOU DO? THEN WON'T YOU PLEASE HELP ME?

LOOK! THOSE RATS! THE WHOLE TOWN'S OVERRUN WITH THEM!


AND THERE'S A BUNCH CHASING THE MAYOR!
PUFF! PUFF! THESE RATS CHASED ME FROM MY DINNER TABLE! PUFF! PUFF!

AND ALL I CAN DO IS PLAY THIS PIPE! I'M NO HELP AT ALL TO HAMELIN TOWN!
DO SOMETHING, ZATARA! SAVE THIS TOWN OF HAMELIN!


EPIP EB CIGAM! LLAC STAR OT MOOD!
DON'T BE AFRAID, PIED PIPER! JUST WALK ALONG AND PLAY A TUNE!


THEY'RE LISTENING! THEY'VE EVEN STOPPED EATING CHEESE!
HEY, FELLER RATS! DO YA HEAR WOT I HEAR? COME ON, LET'S FOLLOW!

IF ONLY I CAN LEAD THEM TO THE RIVER BRINK!
DAT MUSIC! HE'S PROMISIN' TA LEAD US TA CHEESE-LAND! RUN! RUN!
I SMELLS CHEESE!
THAT'S THE LAST OF THEM—THANKS TO YOU, ZATARA!
COME ON, JIMMY! TIME TO GO HOME!
HERE WE ARE SAFELY BACK HOME! AND NOW, YOU MUST GET SOME SLEEP, JIMMY!
WHAT A WONDERFUL JOURNEY, ZATARA! IT WAS JUST LIKE A FAIRYTALE!
BRIGHT AND EARLY THE NEXT MORNING...
OOOH, I'M AWAKE! BUT, GOSH... I WONDER IF WHAT I DREAMED REALLY HAPPENED?
FAIRY TALES
SURE ENOUGH! HOLLAND WAS SAVED! AND RED RIDING HOOD LOOKS JUST AS I REMEMBER HER!
GOOD MORNING, JIMMY! HAVE A GOOD SLEEP?
NOW FOR YOUR BATH AND SOME BREAKFAST!
IT'S ALL TRUE! THEY'VE EVEN GOT A PICTURE HERE OF JACK CHOPPING DOWN THAT BEANSTALK!
FAIRY TALES
SHHH!
DON'T WORRY, ZATARA, I'LL NEVER MENTION YOU WERE THERE! NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW...
FAIRY TALES
8

Here's the Greatest **BILLFOLD BARGAIN** *in all America*

3 BIG VALUES in ONE

All for only $1.98

★ **This Smart Leather Billfold and Pass Case**

★ **Your Choice of Emblems and Name Engraved on the Billfold in 23k GOLD**

★ **3-Color Identification Plate**
Beautifully Engraved with your Name, Address and Social Security Number

YOU GET THIS! Smart looking, beautifully styled Leather Billfold with Pass Case to hold membership and credit cards. Patented snap feature locks securely so currency and valuables can't fall out.

YOUR NAME ENGRAVED HERE!

Your Permanent Engraved Identification Tag.

● Rising Costs of Leather Goods may make it impossible to repeat this amazing offer!

De Luxe VALUE + Smart Leather BILLFOLD

Your Favorite Emblem, Name, Address and Social Security Number . . . Engraved IN GOLD!...

All At This One LOW PRICE

Here, without a doubt, is the greatest Billfold and Pass Case Bargain that you'll be likely to see for a good many years to come. Through a fortunate purchase we have a limited quantity of these smart leather Billfolds available at this low price. If you have *shopped around*, you know that it is virtually impossible to get a good leather Billfold of this type beautifully engraved in gold with your Lodge Emblem or Army, Navy, Marine or Air Corps Insignia and Name at this sensational low price. In addition we also send you a specially designed 3-color Emergency Identification Plate, on which we engrave your Social Security Number, your Name and your Address. This smart Leather Billfold must actually be seen to be fully appreciated. Besides the spacious compartment at the back which can be used for currency, checks, papers, etc., it has 4 pockets each protected by celluloid to prevent the soiling of your valuable membership and credit cards. This handsome Billfold has the sturdy appearance and style usually found in costlier Billfolds.

● Due to difficulty in obtaining good leather because of war conditions, the supply of these Billfolds is limited. Remember, you get **3 Big Values for only $1.98.** So rush your order today! If after receiving your Engraved Billfold, you don't positively agree that this is the most outstanding bargain you ever came across, return it and we'll refund the money.

YOU GET THIS! Your choice of Emblems and your Name richly Engraved in 23k Gold on the Face of the Billfold. Your name is also engraved in Gold, inside the Billfold.

YOU GET THIS! Beautiful 3-color Emergency Identification Plate which carries your full name, address and Social Security Number. A perfect identification record for you.

NOTE: No C. O. D. Orders to Canada
ILLINOIS MERCHANDISE MART
500 N. Dearborn St., Chicago 10.

Rush Your Order! OUR SUPPLY OF LEATHER BILLFOLDS IS LIMITED!

RUSH THIS COUPON for THIS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME BARGAIN!

ILLINOIS MERCHANDISE MART, Dept. 3081-A
500 N. Dearborn St., Chicago 10, Ill.

If you want a LODGE, ARMY, or NAVY INSIGNIA, state name here_____

☐ I enclose $1.98, plus new 20% Federal Tax (total $2.37). Please send me prepaid a Smart Leather Billfold with my name and favorite Emblem engraved in 23k Gold. You are also to include the Emergency Identification Plate carrying my Full Name, Address, Social Security No.

MY FULL NAME_____ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____

☐ Check here if you want us to ship the above C. O. D. for only $1.98 plus 20% Tax, postage and C. O. D. charges. ● Social Security Number_____

Look, Kids! HERE'S HOW You CAN GET A SWELL NEW FULL-COLOR PICTURE OF SUPERMAN —AUTOGRAPHED TO YOU PERSONALLY— ABSOLUTELY FREE!

EVERY YEAR, AS YOU KNOW, THE PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY IS CELEBRATED ALL OVER OUR NATION BY THE **MARCH OF DIMES** — AND IT'S **YOUR** DIMES THAT CARRY ON THE FIGHT AGAINST **INFANTILE PARALYSIS.** BUT HERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL!

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS **PRINT** YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE COUPON BELOW, PUT IT INTO AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR TEN CENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE **MARCH OF DIMES**, AND MAIL TO

SUPERMAN'S MARCH OF DIMES
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

WE WILL FORWARD YOUR DIME TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT —AND YOUR BIG FULL-COLOR PICTURE OF **SUPERMAN** WILL BE SENT TO YOU *ABSOLUTELY FREE!*

(THIS OFFER EXPIRES MARCH 1, 1945)

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Krypton No. 9)

YJYNA YJLTB J FJA
YDWLQ. TNNY
LXUUNLCRWP FJBCN
YJYNA!

SUPERMAN'S MARCH OF DIMES,
480 LEXINGTON AVE.
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

I enclose 10 cents in coin as a contribution to the March of Dimes, to help fight Infantile Paralysis. Send me, Free, a full-color picture of SUPERMAN.

NAME _____ AGE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

LIGHTER MOMENTS with

fresh EVEREADY batteries

Dated

"What'll I do with it, Sarge? There ain't no carpet!"

"Keep your eye on the Infantry—the doughboy does it!" Won't you lend a few dollars to shorten the war? Buy more War Bonds!

RIGHT NOW, of course, the supply of "Eveready" flashlight batteries for civilian use is very limited. Nearly all our production goes to the Armed Forces and essential war industries. Their needs are tremendous and must come first.

But when this war is over, you'll be able to get all the "Eveready" batteries you want. And they will be new, improved batteries . . . they will give even longer service, better performance.

The word "Eveready" is a registered trade-mark of National Carbon Company, Inc.